APLC/CONF/2014/WP.1

Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

22 May 2014

English
Original: French

Maputo, 23–27 June 2014
Item 8 of the provisional agenda
Informal presentation of requests submitted under Article 5 and of the analyses of these requests

Request for extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the Convention

Summary

Submitted by the Democratic Republic of the Congo

1. The history of the armed conflicts that have taken place in the country since independence, from 1960 to 1964, 1975 to 1977, 1996 to 1997 and 1998 to 2002, has been marked by the use of anti-personnel mines. Ten years after the ratification of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the Democratic Republic of the Congo was granted an extension of 26 months to clarify the status of landmine contamination in a country with 10 large provinces in addition to the capital, Kinshasa, 145 territories and more than 1,200 decentralized localities stretching over 2,345,400 square kilometres.

2. The contamination, with more than 2,500 casualties already identified, has prompted the Democratic Republic of the Congo to undertake in earnest to eradicate this problem since its ratification of the Convention. This is an enormous challenge because of the numerous difficulties that must be overcome. With support from the international community, the Democratic Republic of the Congo plans to meet its obligations under the Convention, above all now that more light has been cast on the contamination in the country and the problem has become easier to see.

Status of work done in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

3. After the granting of the intermediate extension of 26 months, the Democratic Republic of the Congo continued Global Mine Action Survey (GMAS) and Global Mine Action Assessment (GMAA) operations throughout the country before launching a national survey of anti-personnel mine and submunition contamination. For the GMAS and GMAA operations, in addition to the 82 areas addressed in the previous request, 13 more areas totalling 350,630,5877 square metres have been identified by GMAA in Équateur, Kasaï-Occidental and Katanga Provinces, thus bringing the number of areas to 95. During implementation of the two operations mentioned above, work in 19 of the 82 areas, with a

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surface of 7,903,465 square metres, was halted by GMAS. Between 2011 and October 2013, 162 mines were destroyed as part of mine clearance operations. The updated database thus currently has 76 areas identified through the work of GMAS and GMAA. During this period, the city of Kinshasa and Bandundu and Bas Congo Provinces were declared to be free of anti-personnel mines.

4. Regarding the national survey of anti-personnel mine contamination, a great deal of progress was made thanks to an intensive effort carried out over a seven-month period beginning on 1 May 2013 by international demining operators such as the Mines Advisory Group (MAG), Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), Handicap International (HI) and Dan Church Aid (DCA), and also by Congolese organizations such as the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Action pour le développement intégré des communautés (Action for Comprehensive Community Development) (ADIC), Bureau des Actions de Développement et des Urgences (Development Action and Emergency Bureau) (BADU), Synergie des ONG de lutte contre les mines et les restes explosifs de guerres (NGO Synergy against Mines and Explosive Remnants of War) (SYLAM) and Afrique pour la lutte contre les mines antipersonnelle (Africa against Anti-Personnel Mines) (AFRILAM).

5. The national survey made it possible to identify 54 areas stretching over 411,050 square metres among 403 areas covered, by collecting opinions and data from some 6,431 persons in 142 meetings held in the country's provinces, districts and territories. Surveys were conducted in 390 villages in 8 provinces, 14 districts and 40 territories. During the survey, a total of 264 areas suspected of being dangerous were removed from the list.

6. At this stage the GMAS and GMAA results, combined with those of the national contamination survey, have identified 130 areas, with an estimated 1.8 million square metres, representing 76 mined areas with a total surface area of 1.4 million square metres and 54 areas with a surface of 411,050 square metres, spread over 8 of the country's 11 provinces (Équateur, Kasaï-Occidental, Kasaï-Oriental, Maniema, Nord-Kivu, Katanga, Orientale and Sud-Kivu). However, this does not take into consideration the territories of Aru and Dungu, in Orientale Province, which were not surveyed owing to security problems.

Circumstances which prevent compliance within the time limit of 10 years

7. The reasons why the Democratic Republic of the Congo was unable to meet its treaty obligations within the 10-year period set for 2 December 2012 are the following:

- An inaccurate idea of the nature of the contamination, owing to haphazard collection of information and a lack of appropriate assessment;
- Overestimation of the size of areas suspected of being mined;
- Unavailability or lack of maps of mined areas;
- Security problems and recurring armed conflict;
- Sheer size and complexity of the country: inaccessibility, vegetation, poor state of the roads, changing weather conditions, etc.;
- Prioritization, given the other humanitarian and security emergencies faced by the country;
- Insufficient funding;
- Lack of adequate training for surveys of mines and explosive remnants of war, or lack of surveying skills among the demining operators.

Proposed duration for the extension and reasons for the extension

8. The Democratic Republic of the Congo requests an extension of six years, from 1 January 2015, the date planned for the end of the intermediate extension, until 31 December 2020, for the following reasons:

- To seek out and raise the funds required for the technical surveys and demining of 130 identified areas throughout the country;
- To seek out the technical and financial means to allow the country to finalize the assessment or survey in the territories of Aru and Dungu, in Orientale Province, and to carry out the mine clearance itself;
- To follow developments in the security situation (as mine clearance in some areas is dependent on operations carried out against armed groups by the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- From the operational standpoint, based on the history of mine clearance work, and taking into consideration both the operational capacity and the financial resources earmarked for mine clearance between 2009 and 2013, maintaining the same capacity levels (same demining operators, working constantly at the same pace) and with the same available resources, it will take at least 47 months to complete the work, not counting deployment times and risks of delays owing to poor road conditions;
- To deal with unpredictable elements such as vegetation and weather patterns that, with the rains and floods, make it impossible to maintain a constant pace of mine clearance.

Humanitarian, social, economic and environmental implications of the extension

9. The humanitarian, social, economic and environmental implications are enormous and will have a major impact, especially in the north-eastern parts of Katanga, in Kisangani (Orientale Province), the areas around Dimbelenge and Dekese (Kasaï-Occidental Province), the northern part of Maniema Province and the south-eastern part of Équateur Province, where the confirmed presence of anti-personnel mines is still today a major obstacle to a resumption of agricultural and economic activities in the worst-affected communities. This has an adverse impact on food self-sufficiency and on gross domestic product. It thus contributes to worsening poverty and destitution in the affected communities.

10. The mines impact study has reported that a number of people are living with the daily threat of suspected or confirmed mine contamination in their immediate surroundings, resulting in blocked access to agriculture, housing and roads and tracks.

11. In addition to those thus affected, there are also refugees and displaced people. In partnership with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo is continuing to work on the question of the return of Congolese refugees currently living for example in the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Burundi, the Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic, Malawi and Uganda. It is also working to address the sensitive question of the many internally displaced people dispersed throughout the country, a large concentration of whom are in the east.

12. Additionally, over 2,500 victims of mines and explosive remnants of war have been identified throughout the country, and for the most part they have never received appropriate assistance. The outlook for their dependents, and also for those victims in inaccessible or remote areas of the country who are still to be identified, remains grim.

Plan of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to meet its obligations during the requested extension period

13. From the operational point of view, the Democratic Republic of the Congo will give priority first to conducting technical surveys and mine clearance in the 130 areas identified by the national survey of anti-personnel mine contamination. An operational plan will be instituted, revising the national strategic plan for the period from 2012 to 2016, to begin implementation before the date scheduled for the beginning of the extension period. This work schedule will take into consideration the country's priorities: freeing up residential and agricultural areas, areas where roads are in need of repair and areas for the return of refugees and displaced persons.

14. The Democratic Republic of the Congo intends to consolidate the existing operational capacity of organizations already working in the country while building the capacity of mine clearance personnel seconded to the country's Armed Forces and the National Police by the Corps of Engineers to carry out humanitarian demining activities. While covering larger and more complicated areas, observing the priorities listed above, the operational plan forecasts annual figures that will decrease in terms of surface area and funding over time.

15. During the extension period, the Centre congolais de lutte antimines (Congolese Mine Action Centre) (CCLAM) intends to improve the entire coordination system by updating national standards and by strengthening quality management (quality control and assurance) and information management. Working closely with all operators, CCLAM will build the capacity of its staff in all aspects and will work to finish implementation of the transition plan with the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in the country.

Funding and technical means available to the Democratic Republic of the Congo to meet its obligations during the requested extension period

16. From the financial point of view, the country's needs for this period will amount to approximately US$ 20 million: US$ 19,431,730 for mine clearance in 130 areas suspected of being mined, for 1.3 million square metres, and US$ 568,270 to complete surveying and mine clearance in Aru and Dunguet, in Orientale Province.

17. In accordance with the workplan corresponding to the country's priorities, the annual costs decrease, with an average of US$ 3.2 million for 210,000 square metres per year. This covers only operational costs, i.e., personnel, equipment and transport.

18. The Government is committed to earmarking approximately US$ 600,000 from its budget to cover the programme's operating costs, including coordination. As for technical means, the plans call for 90 per cent of the mine clearance to be carried out manually, and 10 per cent to be conducted using combined techniques (manually, along with mechanical means or canine mine clearance). The Democratic Republic of the Congo currently benefits from services provided by international demining operators whose manual and technical teams' technical capacity should be maintained so as to cover part of the needs mentioned above.

19. The manual clearance part will be strengthened with the reintroduction of five or six teams from the Armed Forces and the National Police who have already served with all the international demining operators under the national strategic plan for 2012 to 2016. For them, it will be indispensible to receive training and new technical tools to ensure effective and efficient management of the work to be done during the extension period.

APLC/CONF/2014/WP.2

Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

30 May 2014

Original: English

Maputo, 23 - 27 June 2014
Item 8 of the provisional agenda
Informal presentation of requests submitted under Article 5 and of the analyses of these requests

Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention
Executive summary

Submitted by Yemen

1. During the past 50 years, from the revolution to the period of civil confrontation in 1994, Yemen has witnessed a number of conflicts, each leaving behind a significant level of contamination by mines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW).

2. The government of Yemen is committed to the complete elimination of landmines and ERW and established the National Mine Action Committee (NMAC) in June 1998 to formulate policy, allocate resources, and develop a national mine-action strategy. Furthermore, the Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre (YEMAC) was established in January 1999 as the implementing body of the NMAC with the primary responsibility of coordinating all mine-action activities in the country. The aim of the current Strategic Mine Action Plan is to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel landmines.

3. A nationwide Landmine Impact Survey (LIS) completed in July 2000 identified 592 mine-affected villages in eighteen out of the country's twenty-one governorates. Out of those, 14 communities were classified as high impact and 578 communities were considered medium or low impact. A total of 1,078 mined areas were identified with a reported surface area of 922.7 square kilometres mainly in the central and southern regions of the country. The landmine and ERW problem has had a serious impact on access to critical resources, blocking access to grazing land, agricultural land and water sources for drinking and irrigation. It has also impeded infrastructure development and the implementation of social development projects in affected communities. The LIS recorded a total of 4,904 casualties over the past fifty years, of which 2,560 were killed and 2,344 injured. Accidents recorded between 1999 and September have claimed 243 victims of which 153 were injured and 90 killed, 87 of which were children (56 boys, 31 girls) and 157 adults (141 men and 16 women). In 2002 and 2006 a further 3 new affected communities with a population of 36,747 and seven mined areas with total size 604,400 square meters were identified through population and local authority reports.

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4. Since its establishment in 1999 the NMAC, through its implementation body YEMAC, had progressed steadily towards its original objective to address the 923 square kilometers of ERW and mine contaminated land identified by the LIS. Yemen has progressed at a quick pace after being the first nation in the region to ratify the Mine Ban Treaty on 1 September 1998 as witnessed by the developed of its indigenous capacity, moving from a DIM (then DEX) programme to a nationally executed programme as early as October 2003. Yemen's international reputation for technical competence within the wider mine action community and its significant national in-kind contributions through the provision of seconded staff from the Yemen military.

5. In Yemen's initial extension request submitted before its original deadline in extension in 2009(April 2009 to March 2015), Yemen sought to complete the technical survey of the remaining mined areas with a size of 213,228,369 square meters which remained from the LIS located in Shabwah, Al Jawf and Mareb governorates and in 12 different Districts in Taiz, Sa'ada, Ibb and Hadhramout. However, In addition to the areas identified by the LIS, conflict between the Yemeni army and Al Qaida groups in 2011 in Abyan governorate and a civil conflict in Sa'ada, Hajjah, Sana'a and Amran has called for additional survey operations given suspected contamination. Successive conflicts have presented new and unexpected challenges with a resultant new and increased demand for mine action activities in the country. Unfortunately, previously mine-free and cleared land has been either suspected or physically confirmed as being contaminated or re-contaminated. In addition a new and highly significant threat of victim operated improvised munitions (IM) and booby-traps, which were deployed throughout Sa'ada and Abyan has emerged:

- In **Sa'da**, after the insurgency war during the period 2006 to 2009, new kinds of mines made manually have been used by insurgents. This war extended to the Hajjah and Amran governorates and many mine accidents have been reported in these governorates causing an unknown number of civilians to be killed and injured. The impact survey in Sa'da initiated in October 2012 in five districts (Al Dhaher, Razih, Shada', Haidan and Saqeen). These efforts resulted in the identification of a total of 248 SHAs affected by mines measuring 126,424,000 square meters located in 142 villages (17 high impact, 73 medium impact, 52 low impact).
- In **Abyan**, the impact survey was carried out in two districts (Zunjbar and Khanfar). These efforts resulted in the identification of a total of 37 communities found to be affected by mines and ERW (3 high impact, three medium impact and 31 low impact) with a total of 62 SHAs measuring 126,805,016 square meters in the four remaining districts contamination by mines and ERW is expected.

6. Due to the high impact in Sa'ada and Abyan governorates, these governorates have been prioritized and in October 2012 YEMAC started implementing the LIS in these two governorates within 90 per cent of Yemen's capacity deployed to these governorates. Technical survey, MRE, and VA activities were initiated in December 2012. As the priority for the moment is the high impact areas in Abyan and Sa'da the remaining governorates (Sana'a, Amran, and Hajjah) have not yet been visited. A further obstacle has been the security problem in Amran and Hajjah governorates which did not offer the necessary security conditions to carry out survey and demining. Fortunately this condition has improved and work will be able to resume. With the new areas identified, the new baseline of contamination includes a total of 1,398 mined areas measuring **1,176,561,296** square meters.

7. In addition to the known contamination, we suspect to identify new contamination by anti-personnel mines in the following governates:

- In Sa'ada and Abyan: for the rest of the districts that have not been surveyed by the LIS, Yemen expects 4 districts in Sa'ada (Qataber, Ketaf, Sehar and Al Safraa) could be contaminated by mines and ERW with the SHA possibly measuring 172,593,568 square meters and also expects four districts in Abyan (Lawder, Al Wadhee', Modya, and Al Mahfad) could be contaminated by mines and ERW with the SHA possibly measuring 167,689,600 square meters.
- In Hajja: the war in Sa'ada spilled over to Hajja governorate. Non-technical survey, technical survey, clearance and other activities have not started in Hajj as of yet. According to the information received from the local authority in Hajjah, YEMAC is expecting that three of the 27 districts could be contaminated by mined and ERW in this Governorate. These suspected districts are Kushar, Mustabaa' and Bakeel Al Meer.
- In Sana'a: during the revolution events happening in 2011, and according to the media reports, YEMAC expects many areas could be contaminated by ERW and small areas could be contaminated by mines in two districts (Nehem and Arhab).
- In Amaran: the war of 2006-2009 in Sa'ada spilled over to Amran governorate to cover Harf Sofyan district. This district is the largest area located in the north of Amran and on the boarder of Sa'ada Governorate.

8. Although the provinces of Sana'a, Amaran, and Hajjah have not been surveyed it is expected that contamination by landmines and ERW is presented in these areas. In estimating possible contamination by calculating the percentage of SHA found in Sa'ada and Abyan the affected area in these provinces may equal a total of 243,364,800 square metres (Sana'a 71,400,000 square meters, Amaran 153,098,400 square meters, Hajjah 18,866,400 square meters). This is only speculation and needs to be confirmed. These expected areas could be more or less according to the LIS results which is planned to be done in 2014.

9. Since 2000 to September 2013 Yemen has carried out technical survey of its SHAs and through this process has cancelled a number of SHAs and confirmed a number of minefields. Out of the 1,398 SHAs identified measuring 1,176,561,296 square meters a total of 897 SHAs measuring 838,118,076 have been cancelled/reduced through technical survey with 501 SHAs measuring 338,443,221 square meters remaining to be technically surveyed. During the technical survey process a total of 1,015 minefields have been confirmed measuring 50,546,876 square meters with a total of 908 minefields measuring 42,403,620 square meters having been addressed and a total of 107 minefields measuring 8,143,256 square meters pending clearance. These efforts have led to the identification and destruction of 119,376 anti-personnel landmines, 775 anti-tank mines, 199,075 items of unexploded ordnance and 3,511 booby traps.

10. Clearance efforts in Yemen have been carried out through applying manual clearance and mine detection dogs and working in accordance with international standards and Yemeni standards. Yemen ensures the quality of their work by the deployment of Quality Assurance teams during technical survey and clearance operations as well as after technical survey and clearance operations have been concluded.

11. Multiple factors have impeded compliance with the Convention over the course of the initial extension period including the following: (a) limited access to Sa'ada, Hajjah, Amran, Abyan and Sana'a governorates during the period from 2009 to the beginning of 2012; (b) technical obstacles including the difficulty in identifying mines planted in mountain areas, desert and shifting sands where is very difficult to use mine detectors due to magnetic , iron soil, and depth of the mines; (g) windy season in July and August especially in desert areas, and the raining seasons in the summer that restrict the clearance operations in these areas; (h) the need to restructure the companies and platoons to small

groups (ERW teams) because most of areas are contaminated with ERW (cluster bombs and booby traps) which requires more logistical equipment for each team, and; (i) the non-availability of multi-year funding which hampers proper short-term and medium term planning and inadequate funds which cause delays in the implementation of planned activities.

12. In light of the contamination still faced by Yemen, Yemen still required approximately five year to fulfil its obligations under Article 5. During the extension period Yemen will carry out the following activities:

(a) Technical Survey (September 2013 – September 2014)

- September 2013 – February 2014: in Abyan, Al Dhale', Al Jawf, Amran, Hadhramout, Ibb, Lahij, Mareb, Sa'ada and Shabwah governorates measuring 338,443,221 square meters.
- March 2014 – June 2014: SHA Expected in Sa'ada/ in the districts left (Qataber, Ketaf, Sehar, and Al Safraa' districts) area unknown.
- March 2014 to June 2014: SHA Expected in Abyan/ in the 4 districts left (Lawder, Al Wadhee', Modya and Al Mahfad) area unknown.
- July 2014 to September 2014: SHA Expected in Hajjah/ in the 3 districts left (Bakeel Al Meer,Mustabaa' and Kusher) area unknown.
- July 2014 to September 2014: SHA Expected in Sana'a/ in two districts (Nehem and Arhab) area unknown.
- July 2014 to September 2014: SHA Expected in Amran (Harf Sofyan district) area unknown.

(b) Clearance (June 2014 – February 2020)

- June 2014 to May 2015: 1,628,651 square meters of known contamination and additional area identified through survey.
- June 2015 to May 2016: 1,628,651 square meters of known contamination and additional area identified through survey.
- June 2016 to May 2017: 1,628,651 square meters of known contamination and additional area identified through survey.
- June 2017 to May 2018: 1,628,651 square meters of known contamination and additional area identified through survey.
- June 2018 to May 2019: 1,628,651 square meters of known contamination and additional area identified through survey.
- June 2019 to February 2020: Any remaining areas.

13. Yemen will carry out this work with its current capacity of 6 clearance companies, one clearance platoon, eight explosive ordnance disposal tams, 5 mine awareness teams, three victim assistance teams, 27 medical support teams, three mine detection dog groups, 12 technical survey teams and 2 quality assurance teams. Additionally, Yemen seeks to increase its capacity by carrying out the following:

- By the end of 2013, fifty new deminers will be seconded to YEMAC from the ministry of defence;
- YEMAC is planning to upgrade the old demining equipment (mine detectors, protection equipment, vehicles etc..) and to buy new demining equipment for its staff;

- YEMAC is planning to update the demining standards (NMAS) to fit updated international standards, and;
- YEMAC is contracting the GICHD to upgrade IMSMA to the new version 6.7.

14. The activities to be carried out over the three five year extension period will cost a total of US$ 65,827,756 with US$ 15,353,056 to be provided by the Government of Yemen and US$ 50,474,700 to be mobilized from donor countries.

15. As mentioned above, in addition to the known mined areas, Yemen expects to also have confirmed mined areas to be cleared in the areas remaining to be surveyed. However Yemen is confident that it will also be in a condition to clear minefields identified over the course of surveys during the extension period. Therefore, Yemen will appreciate the acceptance of this request and accordingly to approve an extension of five years from March 2015 to March 2020. It is clear that much of this is based on speculation of what will be identified during the Non-technical and technical survey operations and Yemen commits itself to offer yearly updates on progress made on survey and the results of this survey.

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Executive summary

Submitted by Yemen

1. Eritrea has been a scene for major conflicts for over half a century leaving it with a massive legacy of Landmines and Explosive Remnants of war (ERW). It is one of the hardest hit countries in Africa by this scourge. The war between British and Italians during World War II left behind a significant amount of ERW. Following the war, and contrary to the wishes of the Eritrean people, the United Nations decided to annex Eritrea to Ethiopia under a federal arrangement. When Ethiopia abrogated the federation in 1962, the Eritrean commenced its struggle for self-determination which culminated in independence in 1993. The legacy of the three decade war of independence, however, was a huge nationwide landmine and ERW contamination. In 1998, Ethiopia waged a war of aggression against sovereign Eritrean territories sparking a two year border conflict. During the war massive defensive landmines were planted by the Eritrean defence forces, notwithstanding to the landmines that the Ethiopian armies planted in the Eritrean territories that they have occupied. Inevitably the subsequent wars have left the country with atrocious threat and contamination of landmines and ERW.

2. The effects of landmines and ERW had noticeably gone beyond killing and maiming of people. Its impact on the social and economic progress of the nation could not be understated. The vast majority of the mine impacted communities in Eritrea depend on farming and herding for their livelihoods. The widely scattered landmines and ERW have impeded farmers from cultivating their land and herders from freely moving their herds in search of better grazing land and water. Moreover, the negative impact of landmines and ERW on constructions and other development projects were noticeable especially in Southern and Gash-Barka regions. Over the course of the initial extension period a total of 52 people fell victim to landmines in the Central Region, Southern Region, Anseba Region, Northern Red Sea Region and Gash Barka Region with nine having been killed and 43 injured? Victims included 26 males under 18 injured and six killed, six males over 18 injured and two killed, ten females under 18 injured and one killed and one female over 18

injured with most of them injured or killed when herding or walking for their daily activities.

3. Eritrea acceded to the Mine Ban Treaty on 27 August 2001. As part of a fulfilment to its obligations under the Treaty, a national mine action was established in 2002. The establishing proclamation (123/2002) stipulated the responsibility of the Eritrean Demining Authority (EDA) as: coordinating and managing Mine Action in Eritrea with the task of clearing landmine and returning areas to productive use, educating Eritrean civilian of the dangers of mines and on ways to identify and report them; clear mined areas to facilitate the repatriation of internally displaced persons and refugees and integrate mine action into the national development plans.

4. Faced with this tantamount challenge, the Eritrean Government commenced a nationwide landmine and ERW clearing efforts soon after independence as well as after the conclusion of the Eritrea Ethiopia border conflict in 2000. This massive landmine clearance effort in affected areas was undertaken by Eritrean defence forces engineering units and preparations for humanitarian mine action became operational in 2001. It is important to note that in the aftermath of the border conflict, there was an increase in Humanitarian Mine Action activities organized by National Mine Action and a number of foreign organizations, such as: Danish Church Aid, Danish Demining Group, HALO Trust, RONCO, Mine Awareness Trust and UNMEE Contingencies using a wealth of mine clearance tools including manual, mechanical, and dogs engaged in mine clearance and ERW destruction operations. However, judged against the huge capacity in terms of finance, technology and personnel the results achieved was not satisfactory. This led to the overall restructuring of Mine Action activities including the phasing out of the contracts of the foreign organizations as well as the suspension of UNDP's Mine Action Capacity Building Program.

5. The first nationwide effort to identify the Landmine and UXO contamination was through a Landmine Impact Survey (LIS) conducted between March 2002 and June 2004. The survey identified 914 Suspected Hazard Area (SHA) encompassing 129 square kilometres nationwide and affecting 411 communities. It was also identified that 751 of the SHAs as contaminated by AP mines, a mix of AP and AT mines or a mix of AP mines, AT mines and ERW. The contaminated areas spread on the six administrative regions as follow: **(203)** in Anseba, **(112)** in Southern, **(12)** in Southern Red Sea, **(107)** in Gash Barka, **(72)** in Central and **(246)** in Northern Red Sea.

6. With limited support from the UNDP, the EDA resumed demining program that included activities such as: mapping, marking of affected areas, Mine Risk Education to the former IDPs and Mine Clearance activities on a limited scale more focused in the IDPs/Expellees return/resettlement areas. In the absence of external assistance, the EDA has been employing cheapest and relatively effective methods easily applicable to carry out mine clearing operations with the limited resources and capacity that is locally available.

7. Demining is primarily carried out by the engineering units of the Eritrean defence forces. Trained and certified deminers with Standard Operating Procedures among those teams are tasked under the supervision and quality assurance of the EDA. The EDA through its Operations and QA/QC departments carries the responsibility of all aspects of quality assurance and quality control standards according to the National Mine Action Standard (SOP). All individuals deployed or involved in the humanitarian mine clearing task are trained and aware to be responsible for quality assurance. Quality checks are included at all levels of mine clearance tasks. The site supervisor ensures all aspects of quality assurances at all levels. He/she ensures the suitability of demining methods to the site, as well as monitors the result of clearance and adjusts the clearance method. The EDA conducts its mine action activities in close partnership with affected communities and local

administration. The widely spread community volunteers continue to perform important task of educating of landmine and ERW risks and monitoring incidents.

8. It is the strategic aspiration of the Government of Eritrea to have a mine free state and Eritrea has been tackling these issues in order to overcome Article 5 challenges. However, flaws in the initial conduct of the Survey including overlapped records, the massiveness of the contaminated areas, lack of adequate funding and shortage of operational equipment impeded Eritrea from fulfilling its mine clearance commitment within ten years as stipulated in Article 5 of the Convention. In 2011, Eritrea submitted an "interim" request for extension of an initial period of three years with the aim of conducting resurvey by non-technical survey methods to properly identify the remaining challenge and develop an appropriate plan for the implementation of Article 5 of the Convention and was granted a three year extension period (February 2012 – February 2015).

9. Accordingly, the Eritrean mine action authority drafted five years national strategic plan from 2011 – 2015. This plan was based on the review and updating of the 2005-2009 strategic objectives with total budget assessment of **8.5** million US dollars, expecting partial coverage of it (**4.5** million US dollars) by external support to carry out the following objectives: (a) make area reduction by at least 50 per cent conducting resurveys until 2014; (b) continue clearance of land mines and ERW according to the social impact priorities ; (c) continue to conduct Mine Risk Education activities to sensitize communities to reduce new casualties until full clearance is assured. To achieve these, the EDA proposed to deploy demining teams in the impacted location of:

(a) Anseba --- Halhal, Keren, Haboro, Geleb, Hagaz and Kerkebet

(b) Northern Red Sea --- Karora, Mahmimet, Afabet and Shieb.

10. During the transitional extension request, a non-technical survey was proposed with the aim for quick area reduction. Such a survey would enable Eritrea to reach a correct assessment of the remaining contaminated areas which in turn could be crucial at assessing the operational time frame. In preparing the proposal for the non-technical survey task, it has been assumed that a big area reduction can be done from the LIS data record which was executed from 2002 to 2004. This assumption was based on our estimation from observations on the ground that although the LIS served as a bench mark for the humanitarian mine action progress, it had so many overlaps in its mined area records. Other than this, some areas were cleared by the military engineers very early after the conflicts but not cancelled yet until recently because non-technical survey verification and assurance was needed to fulfil completion protocols for cancellation. Such assumption is asserted timely by the fact that huge portion of the operational achievements is attained by non-technical survey tasks.

11. Accordingly, non-technical survey teams were deployed in the following sub-regions:

(a) Anseba Region: Hagaz, Keren, Halhal, Geleb, Elaberid, Hamelmalo, Asmat and Aditekelezan

(b) Northern Red Sea Region: Karora, Afabet, Shieb, Foro and Massawa

(c) Southern Red Sea Region: Central Denkalia, Southern Denkalia, Assab and Araata.

(d) Central Region: Serejeka, Gala Nefhi and Berik

12. The survey teams conducted their task in close collaboration with the relevant partners including Mine Risk Education teams, the community volunteers, regional administration offices, relevant military engineers to gather information on the LIS recorded mined areas. EDA teams collected information based on a pre-prepared

questionnaire which includes questions such as: After military demining since 20 years had there been any incident of landmine in the location? Are the communities using the location for their daily purposes? If you believe the previously LIS recorded area is having partial impact only, where does it lie? When teams got satisfactory information from informants, the EDA declared an area mine free and cancelled from the impact list. After full clearance or NTS cancellation is justified, the EDA contacts the Regional and sub-regional administrators for the declaration of the cleared areas and safe usage of the land.

13. In the transitional extension request of March 2011, Eritrea has reported that out of 751 mined areas identifies as baseline by the LIS, 79 areas covering an area of 30,852,678 square meters had been cleared. Hence, at the time of submitting its initial extension request, referring the LIS records Eritrea reported a total of 672 areas measuring a total of about 98 million square meters remaining. Furthermore, in the past three years a total of 287 areas measuring a total of 73,702,463 square meters have been cleared and cancelled by NTS. Of these 38 mined areas measuring 5,667,968 square meters have been cleared identifying and destroying in the process 1,064 anti-personnel mines, 34 anti-tank mines and 2,218 ERW and 249 areas have been cancelled through non-technical survey measuring 67,325,361 square meters.

14. Therefore at this stage, total number of areas addressed since the LIS are 366 covering 104,555,141 square meters and the remaining impacted number of mined areas is supposed to be 385 with total area coverage of about 24.5 million square meters.

15. While much progress has been made in terms of clearing impact areas identified in the LIS, there has been 49 new mined areas discovered in the five regions of the country, namely:

(a) Gash Barka region: Agordat and Shambuko.

(b) Central Region: Serejeka, South-east and Berik,

(c) Southern Region: Areza, Debarwa,Dekemhare, Segeneiti, and Senafe.

(d) Anseba region: Keren, Hamelmalo, Elabered,Halhal and Habero.

(e) Northern Red Sea Region: Afabet and Nakfa.

16. This new discovery of mined locations covers total area of about nine million square meters. Thus Eritrea remains 434 mined areas covering total area of about 33.5 million square meters which needs to be addressed by clearance encompassing Technical Survey and may be small amount including the new discovered mined areas need NTS.

17. Although a lot of work has been carried out, owing to the multifaceted challenges that Eritrea faces in the area of landmines and the unfortunate discovery of new contaminated areas, the Government of the State of Eritrea requests Five Year Extension Period (February 2015 to February 2020) not to complete Article 5 obligations by 2020 but to accomplish the resurvey task parallel to the demining operations to identify the actual mined area needing thorough demining operations. Having substantial transitional period, we will be able to gain more clarity which leads us to the right assessment for the final report of the remaining contaminated area to be reported at the end of this requested period.

18. EDA will attempt to conduct resurvey in the remaining 434 mined areas which cover 33.5 million square meters with the available national human and financial resources. It also plans to deploy at least five demining teams which could be increased if adequate logistical and financial support is found. To achieve better results EDA is in a midst of organizational restructuring at all levels. At the present, EDA's human capacity is as follow:

(a) Five demining teams with each demining team having 64 person = 320.

(b) Three EOD teams with each team having 5 person = 15

(c) Two Survey teams with each team having 5 person = 10

(d) Two Q/A teams with one team having 5 person = 10

(e) Ten MRE teams with one team having 4 person = 40

(f) 150 community volunteers

19. Following an updated training the demining teams are expected to be deployed and conduct demining associated with technical survey in the following priority regions:

(a) Anseba region: Hagaz, Keren, Halhal, Geleb, Elaberid, Hamelmalo, Asmat,

(b) Kerkebet,Habero and Aditekelezan

(c) Northern Red Sea region: Karora, Mahmimet, Afabet, Shieb, Foro and Massawa

(d) Gash Barka Region: Haikota,Teseney,Gogne, Agordat,Shambuko

(e) Central Region: Serejeka, Gala Nefhi and Berik.

20. Non-technical survey will mainly be conducted in the following impacted locations:

(a) Northern Red Sea Region: Karora

(b) Southern Red Sea Region: Areata, Assab, Central Denkalia, Southern Denkalia

21. Past experience has shown that each demining team will be deployed to conduct demining operations according to the priority areas with assumed clearance rate of **384000** square meters per team per year and **1,920,000** square meters per five teams per year. Therefore the total clearance progress planned for the five teams in five years period is calculated to be **15,360,000** square meters. This figure is the maximum attainable efficiency assumed under regular and fulfilled operational conditions but may be ambitious if taking into account the inevitable collaboration (working together) of the demining teams with the re-survey teams to accomplish the outstanding and priority task which is to make optimal area reduction.

22. The overall total budget required for the five years extension plan (2015-2020) is estimated **7,166,800** US dollars. Having proposed this projection, the State of Eritrea through the EDA will relentlessly continue its effort using, with utmost efficiency, of the human, material and financial resources existing and that it might acquire to expedite mine clearance program and fulfil its obligations before the dead line proposed under the limited national capacity.

Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

23 June 2014

English only

Maputo, 23 - 27 June 2014
Item 8 of the agenda
Informal presentation of requests submitted under Article 5 and of the analyses of these requests

Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention
Executive summary

Corrigendum

Submitted by Eritrea

The subtitle of document APLC/CONF/2014/WP.3 should read as above.

GE.14-06250 (E)
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APLC/CONF/2014/WP.4

Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

5 June 2014

Original: English

Maputo, 23 - 27 June 2014
Item 8 of the provisional agenda
Informal presentation of requests submitted under Article 5 and of the analyses of these requests

Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention
Executive summary

Submitted by Zimbabwe

1. At independence in 1980, Zimbabwe inherited six distinct major mined areas that had been laid by the Rhodesian Army along its borders with Zambia and Mozambique respectively. The original contamination covered a total of 310.65 square kilometres which was erroneously reported as 511.05 square kilometres in previous extension requests. It is estimated that these areas contained over 2,605,400 anti-personnel mines and that there were and are three different types of minefields as follows:

(a) **Cordon Sanitaire**: The cordon sanitaire barrier generally consists of three rows of sub-surface anti-personnel mines laid in a standard pattern with a width of 25 metres. This type of minefield was laid close to or on the international border.

(b) **Ploughshear Minefield**: The Ploughshear minefield consists essentially of three rows of Ploughshear directional fragmentation mines mounted on 0.5 to one metre high stakes protected by sub-surface anti-personnel mines. This minefield has a depth of up to 400 metres.

(c) **Reinforced Ploughshear Minefield**: The reinforced Ploughshear minefield is essentially six rows of Ploughshear directional fragmentation mines mounted on 0.5 to one metre high stakes protected by sub-surface anti-personnel mines. Similar to the Ploughshear minefield, the reinforced has a depth of up to 400 metres.

2. These mined areas have had a severe socio-economic impact on Zimbabwean rural communities. They have severely affected the rural populace in the affected areas as livestock have been and continue to be killed by mines. Mines also continue to injure or in extreme cases kill humans. What is clear, however, is that the population that is at most risk from landmines includes poor rural subsistent farmers, who are often forced through economic necessities to take risks. While the number of casualties reported is relatively low, the real numbers are likely to be much higher. New reports have surfaced in the last months as partner organizations have deployed to the field compiling the victims' database

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during their day to day operations. The greatest impact on the population has proven to be on the Musengezi to Rwenya and the Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner minefields.

3. Unfortunately, perimeter fences that ensured effective exclusion of civilians from mined areas have been removed and vandalised by locals for domestic use during early 1980s. Owing to prohibitive costs and lack of sustainable measures to secure the perimeter fence from theft, no replacement has been placed but danger warning signs have been put in place.

4. In order to respond to the contamination of mines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW), in 2000 the Government of Zimbabwe established the National Mine Action Authority of Zimbabwe (NAMAAZ) to regulate all mine action activities in Zimbabwe and the Zimbabwe Mine Action Centre (ZIMAC) to plan and coordinate mine action activities.

5. Clearance of the minefields started soon after independence, with priority being given to clearing small gaps in order to facilitate infrastructure development, resettlement and economic development. Major clearance started in 1998, with the United States of America providing material and training assistance to the Zimbabwe National Army Engineers to clear the Victoria Falls to Mlibizi minefield. This support was discontinued after one and half years leaving Zimbabwe to complete the bulk of the clearance of the 88 square kilometre minefield on its own in 2005. Further financial assistance was provided by the European Union between 1999 and 2000 to demine the 141.68 square kilometres Musengezi to Rwenya minefield. This support was withdrawn when only 6.2 square kilometres had been cleared. Since then, there has been no International financial assistance provided to Zimbabwe to clear its mined areas. Zimbabwe has been doing everything possible within its capacity to rid itself of anti-personnel mines in compliance with the Convention.

6. Zimbabwe's initial ten year deadline for fulfilling its mine clearance obligations under the Convention for the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction expired in March 2009. Zimbabwe requested an extension of 22 months in order to carry out survey work to acquire a more accurate representation of the dimensions of mined areas that need to be addressed and present a new extension request with a detailed work plan to clear these areas. This extension was granted in 2008 at the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties. As a basis in this initial request, Zimbabwe had inaccurately assumed that the minefields were 1.3 kilometre deep and, therefore arrived at an exaggerated total area to be addressed.

7. During the 22 months granted to Zimbabwe, ZIMAC, with support provided through the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit (ISU) undertook a more detailed analysis using core data from sources that included the 1994 MineTech Survey Report, a 2000 Koch – Mine Safe Completion Report, a 2010 HALO Trust Border Minefield Survey Report done for the Government of Mozambique and significant experience and knowledge gained by Zimbabwe's National Mine Clearance Unit from more than 13 years of clearance.

8. This analysis revealed that contamination data available on the mined areas of Musengezi to Rwenya, Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner, Rusitu to Muzite Mission, Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill and Burma Valley can be assumed to be reasonably accurate, and thus it can be concluded with certainty that no detailed technical survey will be necessary (with the exception of the Cordon Sanitaire in the Crooks Corner – Sango Border Post minefield, which is not recorded, but is known to exist). What would be required though is to confirm the accuracy of available information on these mined areas through a limited general survey. The mined areas of Lusulu, Mukumbura and Rushinga all require more detailed technical survey but the figures provided in this request are based on reasonable analysis of the data available.

9. Unfortunately, due to the lack of funds as well as other factors, Zimbabwe was not able to accomplish the survey work it had intended to carry out during the initial extension period and was obliged to submit a second request for extension of a period of 24 months which was granted at the Tenth Meeting of the States Parties. The above results from the analysis of the core data formed the basis for this second extension request.

10. Over the course of the previous extension request Zimbabwe has continuously carried out clearance work in the mined area of Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner and Kariba. By 31 March 2014 a total of 101.775 square kilometres of Zimbabwe's mined areas have been cleared with 208 970 anti-personnel mines having been destroyed and it has been established that a further 13.93 square kilometres can be removed from the list of suspected areas for other reasons. Zimbabwe still has 208.88 square kilometres of land contaminated with anti-personnel mines and UXOs continue to be recovered.

11. The remaining 208.88 square kilometres is composed of 9.16 square kilometres of cordon sanitaire minefields and 199.72 kilometres of Ploughshear or reinforced Ploughshear. The terrain in some of these areas is mountainous and rocky thus making access to the minefield and employment of some of the demining equipment very difficult. Some of the areas have been affected by soil erosion as there are gullies while others are swampy or prone to flooding. In addition, there are areas that are thickly wooded or with hard clay surface which is hard to work on. All these characteristics as well as extremely high temperatures in some of the mined areas have the potential to significantly affect demining operations and have to be considered in planning.

12. These land release activities have been carried out through full clearance. Following the total clearance of a particular minefield, a quality control/quality assurance team carries out inspection of the cleared area. Commercial deminers in the past have used a combination of mechanical clearance and standard manual demining techniques followed by an independent external quality assurance process. Military deminers use standard demining techniques, followed by an internal quality assurance process. Currently clearance of mined areas is being undertaken by military engineers with funding from the Government. HALO Trust and NPA have commenced survey and demining and some meaningful progress has been recorded on the survey.

13. Unfortunately, although things have progressed, Zimbabwe has not been able to carry out its Article 5 commitments it set in the past three requests for extension due to the following:

(a) Inadequate funding for demining from the Government: The economy is depressed and constrained as a result of factors such as illegal economic sanctions. Zimbabwe is unable to access funds from multilateral institutions to revitalise the economy. The Government has numerous pressing commitments to meet with the little resources available.

(b) Insufficient demining equipment: As alluded to above, the Country does not have funds to purchase the expensive demining equipment furthermore the demining equipment is imported from countries which imposed sanctions on Zimbabwe.

14. Since March 2012 to 31 March 2014, the ICRC provided training in Demining Management to Senior Engineer Officers, a train the trainer course on humanitarian demining and survey for junior officers, QA/QC, EOD Level 1 and MRE. Furthermore the ICRC facilitated the training of medics on the use of medical trauma kits. The ICRC has also procured equipment to support the equipping of a limited survey capacity and to improve the efficiency of Zimbabwe's demining capacity including personal protective equipment, demining tools and Medical equipment.

15. During the second and third extension period and through the signing of MOUs with the HALO Trust and NPA, Zimbabwe put forward efforts to accelerate survey and demining efforts by allocating specific areas for survey and clearance by these organizations as follows:

1	Musengezi to Rwenya	HALO Trust
2	Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner	National Mine Clearance Unit
3	Rusitu to Muzite Mission	NPA
4	Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill	NPA
5	Burma Valley	NPA
6	Rushinga	HALO Trust
7	Lusulu	National Mine Clearance Unit
8	Mukumbura (Encirclement)	National Mine Clearance Unit
9	Kariba	National Mine Clearance Unit

16. During the third extension period, Zimbabwe and its partners intended to carryout annual milestones and commitments. To date, the following milestones have been achieved:

(a) The National Mine Clearance Unit managed to clear an area of 679 857 square meters recovering and destroying 9 950 anti-personnel mines during period March 2012 to 31 March 2014. The Unit managed to clear the Kariba SHA in June 2013 covering 0.6 square kilometres and destroying 210 Improvised Explosive Devices.

(b) The Zimbabwe National Mine Action Standards (ZNMAS 01) were approved as a legal document with effect from 1 July 2013. All mine action organisations have started operating basing on these standards.

(c) The NPA Mine Action Programme has conducted non-technical and impact assessment surveys in the three minefields namely Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill, Burma Valley and Rusitu to Muzite during the period 12th November 2012 to 31 March 2014. Currently they are conducting technical survey and clearance of the Burma Valley minefield where 69 549m2has been cleared recovering and destroying 43 X M969 mines. Clearance is in progress and the task is expected to be completed in July 2014 at the current operational strength and work rate. From the non-technical survey, the depth of the minefields averages 100m instead of 400m as previously assumed.

(d) HALO Trust commenced survey in August 2013 and has surveyed 203.3km frontage from Mukumbura River to Kahira Mountain. From data collected to date, the average width of the Cordon Sanitaire is 30m and Ploughshear Field is 61m which translates to a significant reduction from the 400m width previously estimated. This entails that the actual contaminated area is less than officially recorded although it is too early to conclude that. From their current rate of progress, it is envisaged that they will complete survey by end of September 2014 and submit the final survey report in October 2014. HALO Trust commenced clearance on 11 November 2013 and up to 31 March 2014 they had cleared an area measuring 43 383m2 recovering and destroying 709 anti-personnel mines.

(e) A Troop from National Mine Clearance Unit assigned to clear the Mukumbura encirclement which is part of the Musengezi to Rwenya minefield cleared an

area of 10 850 m2 and destroyed 44 Anti-personnel mines from December 2013 to 31 March 2014.

17. A lot of benefits will be realised in humanitarian, economic, social and environmental aspects in the endeavour to fulfil the work to be carried out during the requested period. This will allow for more land to be relieved of mines thereby creating more room for greater opportunities. Business opportunities in areas of agriculture, tourism, mining, game ranching and industrial sites would be realised over the period. On the social aspect, local inhabitants will freely access their water sources, have ample grazing land for their domestic animals and travel across lands to visit their relatives without risking their lives and limbs. In such a situation, investors would be much more willing to make business in a mine free land.

18. Zimbabwe has gone through a lot of challenges in her efforts to fulfil her Article 5 obligation. There has been no assistance rendered to the Country for the past twelve years and the Country could not import any demining equipment. Our National Mine Clearance Unit troops have been able to undertake limited clearance. This though has made very little impact on the significant degree of mine contamination throughout the country. We have failed to meet our Article 5 obligations during the last three extensions granted to us as a country due to among others lack of support and financial constraints. The coming on board by the ICRC, the HALO Trust, and NPA and with HALO and NPA already conducting operations, there will be significant impact on the Country's endeavours to eradicate the mine problem currently faced.

19. With ongoing survey still not complete and analysis of the information and with little time to gain experience since our last request, Zimbabwe is requesting a three year extension until 1 January 2018. It is expected that in the following years Zimbabwe will gain a clearer picture of the remaining challenge as well as good idea of what progress will be possible once partners are at full capacity and other possible partners and donors find a way to support Zimbabwe's mine action program and its partners. This request of extension of the deadline up to January 2018 is as a result of the previously requested extensions not realising any meaningful progress owing to reason already alluded to above. This time around, there is hope that the intended goal can be achieved following the coming in of the ICRC, HALO Trust and NPA. Following the process of survey, retraining and consolidation of resources by our deminers and the work by the two international demining organizations (the HALO Trust and NPA), Zimbabwe is confident that it will be able to embark on clearance of mined areas based on a clear and effective plan for the final removal of all remaining minefields as required under Article 5.

20. Objectives to be reached during the extension period include the following:

(a) 2015:

- Clearance of 1,232,000 square meters (432,000 square meters in Musengezi to Rwenya minefield, 550,000 square meters in Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner minefield, and 250,000 square meters in Rusitu to Muzite Mission minefield).
- Develop National Strategic Plan on the basis of survey results.
- Offer an update of clearance plan to Meeting of the Standing Committee and MSP in 2015.

(b) 2016:

- Clearance of 1,280,000 square meters (432,000 square meters in Musengezi to Rwenya minefield, 550,000 square meters in Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner minefield, and 300,000 square meters in Rusitu to Muzite Mission minefield).

- Offer an update of clearance plan to Meeting of the Standing Committee and MSP in 2016.

(c) 2017:

- Clearance of 1,504,000 square meters (554,000 square meters in Musengezi to Rwenya minefield, 600,000 square meters in Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner minefield, and 350,000 square meters in Rusitu to Muzite Mission minefield).
- Offer an update of clearance plan to Meeting of the Standing Committee and MSP in 2017
- Submission of new clearance plan.

21. It is expected that the activities over the three year extension period will cost a total of US$ 12,965,125 with US$ 2,875,000 to be provided by the Government of Zimbabwe and US$ 10,090,125 to be provided by the international community through partner organizations.

Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

16 June 2014

Original: English

Maputo, 23 - 27 June 2014
Item 7 of the provisional agenda
Review of the operation and status of the Convention

Maputo Action Plan

Submitted by the President-Designate of the Third Review Conference

Introduction

1. The States Parties reaffirm their unqualified commitment to ending the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines for all people for all time, and aspire to end the era of anti-personnel mines. These States Parties strive to: maintain strict observance of the Convention's norms; complete implementation of their respective time-bound obligations under the Convention as soon as possible **[and no later than by 2025]**; ensure no new mine victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control; and see that survivors participate in their societies on an equal basis to others.

2. The Maputo Action Plan aims for significant and sustainable progress towards the achievement of this ambition during the period 2014 to 2019, building on the achievements made under the Nairobi and Cartagena Action Plans, while acknowledging local, national and regional circumstances in its practical implementation. The States Parties will implement the Maputo Action Plan in a cooperative, inclusive, age-appropriate and gender-sensitive manner and, in doing so, endeavour for a high degree of coherence, coordination and cost effectiveness. In addition, they will continue to recognise the special partnerships in the universalization and implementation of the Convention with the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining.

I. Universalization

3. While recognising the tremendous progress already achieved, and in order to continue pursuing universal adherence to the Convention and acceptance of its norms, the States Parties will take the following actions:

(a) The States Parties will promote formal adherence to the Convention by States not party to the Convention, regularly inviting them to participate in the Convention's meetings and inform States Parties of practical steps taken, such as formalised commitments not to use, produce or transfer anti-personnel mines, or to destroy stockpiles.

(b) The States Parties will continue to promote universal observance of the Convention's norms, condemn violations of these norms and take appropriate steps to end the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines by any actor, including by armed non-State actors.

(c) The States Parties will coordinate their actions to promote the Convention, including actions taken at a high level, through bilateral contacts and in multilateral fora, and request the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as Depositary, to continue promoting universalization by inviting States not party to join the Convention as soon as possible.

(d) Recalling that in Maputo in 1999, the States Parties formally declared that "as a community dedicated to seeing an end to the use of anti-personnel mines, our assistance and cooperation will flow primarily to those who have foresworn the use of these weapons forever through adherence to and implementation of the Convention," State Parties in promoting the Convention will communicate that they will give specific consideration to those States that have committed to these principles, when considering giving assistance to States not party to the Convention, taking into account that each country will provide assistance on the basis of its own priorities and principles, including in emergency situations.

II. Stockpile destruction

4. The elimination of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines will contribute greatly to preventing additional suffering and casualties caused by these weapons. With a view to overcoming persistent challenges to achieving this aim as soon as possible and preventing additional challenges as well as new cases of non-compliance, the States Parties will take the following actions:

(a) Each State Party that has missed its deadline for the completion of its Article 4 obligations will provide to the States Parties, through the President, by 31 December 2014, a plan for the destruction of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines under its control or jurisdiction as soon as possible, and thereafter keep the States Parties apprised of efforts to implement its plan through annual transparency reports and other means.

(b) Each State Party in the process of destroying its stockpiled anti-personnel mines will regularly communicate to the States Parties, through annual transparency reports and other means, plans to fulfil its obligations and progress achieved, highlighting as early as possible any issues of concern.

(c) Each State Party which discovers previously unknown stockpiles after stockpile destruction deadlines have passed will inform the States Parties as soon as possible, report pertinent information as required by the Convention, and destroy these anti-personnel mines as a matter of urgent priority and no later than six months after the report of their discovery.

III. Mine clearance

5. Considerable progress has been achieved in mine clearance, with almost 30 States Parties having completed implementation of their obligations. However, almost an equal number of States Parties are still in the process of meeting mine clearance deadlines, most of which are extended deadlines. The methods and means of identifying, clearing or releasing areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines in the most efficient manner have improved greatly. In order to achieve completion by all States Parties as soon

as possible and no later than by their respective clearance deadlines, the States Parties will take the following actions:

(a) Each State Party with ongoing mine clearance obligations will undertake all reasonable efforts to quantify and qualify its remaining implementation challenge as soon as possible, and report this information through its Article 7 transparency report by 30 April 2015 and annually thereafter. This information should identify the precise perimeters and locations, to the extent possible, of all areas under its jurisdiction or control that contain anti-personnel mines and therefore require clearance, and that are suspected to contain anti-personnel mines and therefore require further survey. This information is to be incorporated into national demining plans and relevant broader development and reconstruction plans.

(b) Each State Party with ongoing mine clearance obligations will ensure as soon as possible that the most relevant land-release standards, policies and methodologies, in line with the United Nations' International Mine Action Standards, are in place and applied for the full and expedient implementation of this aspect of the Convention. These land release methodologies will be evidence-based, accountable and acceptable to local communities, including through the participation of affected communities, including women, girls, boys and men, in the process.[1]

(c) Each State Party that has reported mined areas under its jurisdiction or control will provide mine risk reduction and education programmes, as part of broader risk assessment and reduction activities targeting the most at-risk populations. These programmes shall be age-appropriate and gender-sensitive, coherent with applicable national and international standards, tailored to the needs of mine-affected communities and integrated into ongoing mine action activities, namely data gathering, clearance and victim assistance as appropriate.

(d) All States Parties will apply the recommendations endorsed by the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties as contained in the paper "Reflections on the Article 5 Extension Process"[2] on ensuring that high-quality requests for extended mine clearance deadlines continue to be submitted, that high-quality analyses of these requests continue to be prepared, and that cooperative engagement of Article 5 implementing States Parties continues after requests have been granted.

IV. Victim assistance

6. States Parties are committed to the full, equal and effective participation of mine victims in society. Actions taken under this Convention to fulfil the solemn promise to mine victims have proven vital and commitments under the Cartagena Action Plan and remain valid and should be acted upon. Engagement in other domains is also necessary in view of the States Parties' understanding that victim assistance should be integrated into broader national policies, plans and legal frameworks related to the rights of persons with disabilities, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction. In this context and in order to address victim assistance with the same precision and intensity as for other aims of the Convention and to ensure that broader frameworks are reaching mine victims, the States Parties will take the following actions:

(a) Each State Party with mine victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control, in a manner that takes into account sex- and age-disaggregated data, will do its utmost to

[1] Recommendations on applying all available methods for the full and expedient implementation of Article 5 were endorsed by the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties.

[2] APLC/MSP.12/2012/4.

assess the needs of mine victims, the availability and gaps in services and support, and existing or new requirements for disability, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction activities needed to meet the needs of mine victims, and to refer victims to existing services where possible.

(b) Based on its assessments, each State Party with mine victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control will do its utmost to communicate to the States Parties, through its annual transparency report, by 30 April 2015, time-bound and measurable objectives it seeks to achieve through the implementation of national policies, plans and legal frameworks that will tangibly contribute, to the full, equal and effective participation of mine victims in society. Every year, these objectives should be updated, their implementation monitored, and progress in implementing them reported to the States Parties.

(c) Based on its assessments, each State Party with mine victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control will do its utmost to communicate to the States Parties, through its annual transparency report, by 30 April 2015, enhancements that have been made or will be made to disability, health, social welfare, education, employment, development and poverty reduction plans, policies and legal frameworks needed to meet the needs of mine victims, and on budgets allocated for their implementation. Every year, efforts to implement these plans, policies and legal frameworks and their enhancements should be communicated to the States Parties.

(d) Each State Party with mine victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control, taking into account its own local, national and regional circumstances, will do its utmost to strengthen local capacities, enhance coordination with subnational entities as relevant and appropriate, and increase availability of and accessibility to appropriate comprehensive rehabilitation services, economic inclusion opportunities and social protection measures for all mine victims, regardless of their gender and age. This entails removing physical, social, cultural, economic, political and other barriers, including expanding quality services in rural and remote areas and paying particular attention to vulnerable groups.

(e) Each State Party, and particularly each with mine victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control, will do its utmost to enhance the capacity and ensure the inclusion and full and active participation of mine victims and their representative organisations in all matters that affect them, particularly as concerns national action plans, legal frameworks, policies, implementation mechanisms, monitoring and evaluation.

(f) All States Parties will seize every opportunity to raise awareness of the imperative to address the needs and guarantee the rights of mine victims, in an age- and gender-sensitive manner, including by engaging in the work of international, regional and national human rights, health care, labour and other *fora*, instruments and domains.

(g) Each State Party with mine victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control will do its utmost to report in advance of the next Review Conference on measurable improvements made in the well-being and the guarantee of the rights of mine victims, challenges that remain and priorities for assistance as relevant.

V. International cooperation and assistance

7. While each State Party is responsible for implementing the Convention in areas under its jurisdiction or control, the Convention's shared goals can be advanced through enhanced cooperation. With a view to significantly improving cooperation between those seeking assistance and those in a position to provide assistance, the States Parties will take the following actions:

(a) Each State Party seeking assistance will do its utmost to demonstrate high-level national ownership in fulfilling Convention obligations, including by: maintaining interest at a high level in fulfilling Convention obligations; empowering and providing relevant State entities with the human, financial and material capacity to carry out their obligations under the Convention; articulating the measures its State entities will undertake to implement relevant aspects of Convention in the most inclusive, efficient and expedient manner possible and plans to overcome any challenges that need to be addressed; and making a regular significant national financial commitment to the State's programmes to implement the Convention.

(b) All States Parties in a position to do so will effectively use all possible avenues to support States Parties seeking to receive assistance in mine clearance; mine risk education; stockpile destruction; adopting appropriate national implementation measures; as well as meeting victims' needs and guaranteeing their rights. As concerns victim assistance, this includes providing targeted assistance and supporting broader efforts to enhance frameworks related to the rights of persons with disabilities, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction.

(c) States Parties in a position to provide assistance and those seeking to receive assistance, where relevant and to the extent possible, will enter into partnerships for completion, with partners specifying their responsibilities to each other, articulating age- and gender-sensitive time-bound objectives and targets, making financial or other commitments, if possible on a multi-year basis, and engaging regularly in a dialogue on progress and challenges in meeting goals.

(d) States Parties in a position to provide assistance will support plans and programmes that are informed by relevant and accurate information on contamination and the socio-economic impact of anti-personnel mines – including information which is collected from affected women, girls, boys and men, and is analysed from a gender perspective – and that promote and encourage gender mainstreaming.

(e) All States Parties will develop and promote bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including through South-South cooperation and by sharing national experiences and good practices, resources, technology and expertise to implement the Convention.

(f) All States Parties will contribute, as they deem useful, to the information exchange tool 'Platform for Partnerships' and will provide new or updated information on their needs for assistance or on assistance which they are in a position to offer, when feasible, with a view to further enhancing partnerships and to supporting the full implementation of the Convention.

VI. Transparency and the exchange of information

8. The States Parties recognise that transparency and the open exchange of information, through both formal mechanisms under the Convention and other informal means, are essential to achieving the Convention's aims. The States Parties also recognise that dialogue informed by accurate and high quality information can support cooperation and assistance and accelerate the Convention's implementation. To this end, the States Parties will take the following actions:

(a) All States Parties will provide high quality and updated information annually, as required by the Convention, and provide additional information in a voluntary manner. Where applicable, those States Parties without implementation obligations will make use of the simplified tools for fulfilling their Article 7 obligations.

(b) The States Parties will draw on information provided as required and on a voluntary basis to engage in cooperative dialogue with a view to enhancing cooperation and assistance efforts, as well as the overall implementation of the Convention. This will contribute to making the exchange of information an effective management tool in support of the implementation of all the Convention's obligations.

(c) Each State Party that has retained anti-personnel mines for reasons permitted by the Convention will regularly review the number of retained anti-personnel mines to ensure that they constitute the minimum number absolutely necessary for permitted purposes, destroy all those exceeding that number, where appropriate explore available alternatives to using live anti-personnel mines for training and research activities. States Parties will annually report, on a voluntary basis, on the plans for and actual use of retained anti-personnel mines explaining any increase or decrease in the number of retained anti-personnel mines.

VII. Measures to ensure compliance

9. During the period 2014-2019, States Parties will continue to be guided by the knowledge that collective cooperation will help facilitate and assist each State Party's ongoing compliance with the Convention. To this end, the States Parties will take the following actions:

(a) In case of alleged or known non-compliance with the Convention's prohibitions, the State Party concerned will provide information on the situation to all States Parties in the most expeditious, comprehensive and transparent manner possible and work together with other States Parties in a spirit of cooperation to resolve the matter in an expeditious and effective manner, in accordance with Article 8.

(b) Each State Party that has not yet done so, will, as soon as possible and no later than by the Fourth Review Conference, take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures to prevent and suppress any activity that is prohibited the Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control. States Parties will report on such measures as required by the Convention and thereafter inform the States Parties of the use of such measures to respond to cases of alleged or known non-compliance with the Convention's prohibitions.

VIII. Implementation support

10. The States Parties have developed innovative mechanisms for the implementation of the Convention and have shown great flexibility in adjusting this machinery to ensure that it matches evolving needs. The States Parties have made it clear that they retain full ownership over the mechanisms they have established, including by remaining committed to oversee and finance this machinery. To this end, the States Parties will take the following actions:

(a) All States Parties in a position to do so will provide necessary financial resources for the effective operation of the Implementation Support Unit and take responsibility for the mechanisms they have established.

(b) The States Parties will make use of synergies with other relevant instruments of international humanitarian and human rights law, without creating any new legal obligations, with a view to enhancing implementation of the Convention, streamlining the Convention's work and using resources as efficiently as possible.

Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

16 June 2014

Original: English

Maputo, 23 - 27 June 2014
Item 7 of the provisional agenda
Review of the operation and status of the Convention

Proposed decision related to the implementation machinery

Submitted by the President-Designate of the Third Review Conference

1. Based upon the paper entitled **Proposal for a meeting programme and related implementation machinery, 2014-2019** (APLC/CONF/2014/PM.2/WP.2) and the discussion on this document at the Conference's Second Preparatory Meeting, the Conference agreed to establish the following mechanisms, thereby replacing the five Standing Committees established by decisions taken at previous Meetings of the States Parties and Review Conferences:

(a) The Committee on Article 5 Implementation

(b) The Committee on Cooperative Compliance

(c) The Committee on Victim Assistance

(d) The Committee on Enhancing Cooperation and Assistance

2. The Conference agreed to the purpose, membership and mandates of the above mentioned mechanisms, as contained in annex […] to the final report.

3. In taking decisions on machinery to support implementation in the period following the Third Review Conference, the Conference emphasised the importance of these decisions in improving the management of the work of the Convention in a highly cooperative manner, that these mechanisms do not have decision making authority, which clearly rests with all States Parties at Meetings of the States Parties and Review Conferences, and that those selected to the positions of responsibility will be accountable to the States Parties including by keeping the States Parties apprised of their activities. There will be no additional mandatory cost to the States Parties for the functioning of these mechanisms.

4. The Conference agreed to elect office-holders as follows:

(a) [---] and [---] to serve as members of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation until the end of the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties, and [---] and [---] to serve as members of the Committee until the end of the Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties.

(b) [---] and [---] to serve as members of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance until the end of the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties, and [---] and [---] to serve as members of the Committee until the end of the Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties.

(c) [---] and [---] to serve as a member of the Committee on Victim Assistance until the end of the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties, and [---] and [---] to serve as a member of the Committee until the end of the Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties.

(d) [---] and [---] to serve as members of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance until the end of the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties, and [---] and [---] to serve as members of the Committee until the end of the Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties.

5. The Conference agreed that Presidency of His Excellency, Mr. Henrique Banze of Mozambique will continue until 31 December 2014. The Conference further agreed to designate His Excellency Mr. Bertrand de Crombrugghe, Ambassador of Belgium, President of the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties, with his term to start on 1 January 2015, and to end at the conclusion of that meeting. Subsequent Presidents will be elected at each Meeting of the States Parties for one-year terms running from the conclusion of the Meeting at which they are elected until the conclusion of the Meeting over which they preside.

6. The Conference agreed that, beginning in 2015, a Meeting of the States Parties will be convened each year at the end of November or beginning of December until the end of 2018, and that the Fourth Review Conference will be held at the end of 2019. The Conference agreed to hold the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties in Geneva during the week of November 30 to 4 December 2015. The Conference further noted with appreciation the offer made by Chile to host and preside over the Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties.

7. The Conference agreed that informal intersessional meetings will be held each year, preferably after the 30 April deadline for submitting transparency information, and that they could comprise a thematic segment and a preparatory segment. These meetings need not be more than two days long, permitting them to be scheduled during the same week as the meetings of related Conventions or activities. The Conference agreed to hold intersessional meetings for a period of up to two days on 4-5 June 2015. Further to provisions of the 2011 agreement between the States Parties and the GICHD concerning implementation support for the Convention, the Conference expressed its appreciation for the GICHD's ongoing support to intersessional meetings.

Annex [...] to the final report of the Third Review Conference

The purpose, mandate, membership and working methods of the states parties' implementation machinery

I. Committee on Article 5 implementation

Purpose

1. The purpose of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation is to intensify efforts, particularly those outlined in the Maputo Action Plan, to ensure that Article 5 is fully implemented as soon as possible, while acknowledging local, national and regional circumstances in its practical implementation.

2. The Committee will fulfil its purpose by providing feedback to States Parties having submitted information on "the location of all mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines" and on mine clearance programmes as well as their results. Furthermore, the Committee will ensure, as agreed to by the States Parties, that "a cooperative engagement of Article 5 implementing States Parties continues after requests have been granted."

Mandate

3. The mandate of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation is to carry out the following:

(a) Review relevant information on Article 5 implementation submitted by States Parties, including in the context of Article 7 obligations and on efforts undertaken under Article 6 on international cooperation and assistance, seek clarity when required and provide advice and support in a cooperative manner to States Parties on the fulfilment of their obligations to report on Article 5 implementation. The Committee will present preliminary observations at intersessional meetings if need be, and final annual conclusions and recommendations at Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

(b) Prepare and submit to the States Parties in advance of Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences an analysis of each request for an Article 5 extended deadline, taking into account, as relevant, the decisions on the analysis process as agreed to by the Seventh and the Twelfth Meetings of the States Parties.

(c) Engaging relevant States Parties, after any extension requests have been granted, on the implementation of their commitments as contained in requests and related decisions on their requests and. The Committee will present preliminary observations at intersessional meetings if need be, and conclusions and recommendations at Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

(d) Remain transparent and accountable, including by reporting on activities at both intersessional meetings and Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

Membership

4. The Committee on Article 5 Implementation will be composed of a representative group of four States Parties serving overlapping two-year terms, including at least one State either in the process of implementing Article 5 or having completed implementation of Article 5 after carrying out mine clearance activities.

5. Each year, the Committee on Article 5 Implementation will select a chair among the States Parties serving the second year of their two-year terms. The Chair will be responsible for convening and chairing meetings, issuing communications on behalf of the Committee and directing the Implementation Support Unit to assist the work of the Committee.

Working methods

6. The Committee on Article 5 Implementation may draw from the working methods established in 2008 by the Article 5 Analysing Group, including by placing a heavy emphasis on cooperation with States Parties in the process of implementing Article 5 and by drawing upon expert input as required. The Committee will strive to reach general agreement in all aspects of its work.

II. Committee on cooperative compliance

Purpose

7. The purpose of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance is to assist the States Parties in acting upon their commitment under Article 8.1 of the Convention to work together in a spirit of cooperation to facilitate compliance in a supportive and amicable manner.

8. The Committee on Cooperative Compliance will improve the management of the work of the Convention in a highly cooperative manner. Its establishment will not supersede the provisions of Article 8 or amend the Convention, and its status and prerogatives will be identical to that of other elements of the Convention's machinery. The Committee will have no decision-making capacity, which rests solely with the States Parties.

Mandate

9. The mandate of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance is to carry out the following:

(a) Objectively and informally consider whether a concern about compliance with the Convention's prohibitions contained in Article 1.1 of the Convention is potentially credible and, if so, to consider any follow up that might be appropriate for States Parties to better understand the situation.

(b) When appropriate, in close consultation with the States Parties concerned, clarify the situation, and if as a result it assesses that the concern is credible, make suggestions on steps that the States Parties concerned could take to ensure that the Convention remains strong and effective.

(c) For cases where the concern is credible, present preliminary observations at intersessional meetings if need be, and conclusions and recommendations at Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

(d) Remain transparent and accountable, including by reporting on activities at both intersessional and Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

Membership

10. The Committee on Cooperative Compliance will be composed of the President, who will chair the committee, and a representative group of four States Parties serving overlapping two-year terms as committee members. The Chair will be responsible for

convening and chairing meetings, issuing communications on behalf of the Committee and directing the Implementation Support Unit to assist the work of the Committee.

Working methods

11. The Committee on Cooperative Compliance will strive to reach general agreement in all aspects of its work. The Committee may draw upon expert input as required.

III. COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE

Purpose

12. Building upon the solid foundation the States Parties have constructed on the issue of victim assistance, the purpose of the Committee on Victim Assistance is to strengthen and advance victim assistance, in particular in States Parties with mine victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control.

13. In doing so, the Committee will ensure balance between ongoing discussions on pertinent aspects of victim assistance within the framework of the Convention itself, and taking the discussion on meeting the needs and guaranteeing the rights of mine victims to other fora where relevant and related issues are debated.

Mandate

14. The mandate of the Committee on Victim Assistance is to carry out the following:

(a) Provide advice and support in a cooperative manner to States Parties in the fulfillment of their commitments under the Maputo Action Plan, draw observations in consultation with the States Parties concerned and assist these States Parties in making their needs known.

(b) Present conclusions and recommendations at intersessional meetings if need be, Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences, including on progress, achievements and challenges, in order to strengthen victim assistance.

(c) Take other relevant initiatives to facilitate discussion on ways and means of enhancing victim assistance and to ensure the wellbeing of mine victims.

(d) Raise awareness, in relevant *fora*, of the importance of addressing the needs and guaranteeing the rights of mine victims in broader domains such as health care, disability and human rights, development, poverty reduction, and employment, drawing from the breadth of understandings agreed to by the States Parties on victim assistance.

(e) Remain transparent and accountable, including by reporting on activities at both intersessional meetings and Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

Membership

15. The Committee on Victim Assistance will be composed of a representative group of four States Parties, serving overlapping two-year terms. Each year, the Committee will select a chair among the States Parties serving the second year of their two-year terms. The Chair of the Committee will be responsible for convening and chairing meetings, issuing communications on behalf of the Committee and directing the Implementation Support Unit to assist the work of the Committee.

Working methods

16. The Committee will draw on the expertise of the ICBL and ICRC and involve them in its work, as permanent observers, as well as invite other States Parties, the United Nations and other relevant international and non-governmental organisations to participate on an ad hoc basis. The Committee will strive to reach general agreement in all aspects of its work.

IV. THE COMMITTEE ON THE ENHANCEMENT OF COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

Purpose

17. The purpose of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance is to assist the States Parties in the full implementation of Article 6 of the Convention, in line with their reaffirmation that ending the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines is a shared commitment.

Mandate

18. The Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance is mandated to carry out the following:

(a) Promote cooperation and assistance under the Convention, including by organizing or encouraging the organization of multilateral, regional or national dialogues on cooperation and assistance, in Geneva or elsewhere.

(b) Facilitate the fostering of partnerships between States Parties seeking to receive assistance and those in a position to provide such assistance, including through the use of information exchange tools (e.g. "Platform for Partnerships").

(c) Coordinate with other implementation mechanisms established by the States Parties in order to facilitate and accelerate the full implementation of the Convention.

(d) Present preliminary observations at intersessional meetings if need be, and conclusions and recommendations, if relevant, at Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

(e) Remain transparent and accountable, including by reporting on activities at both intersessional meetings and Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

Membership

19. The Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance will be composed of a representative group of four States Parties serving overlapping two-year terms, including an affected State Party and a State Party that is a provider of support or assistance. Each year, the Committee will select a chair among the States Parties serving the second year of their two-year terms. The Chair will be responsible for convening and chairing meetings, issuing communications on behalf of the Committee and directing the Implementation Support Unit to assist the work of the Committee.

Working methods

20. The Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance may draw on the expert input of the ICBL and ICRC and involve them in its work, as well as invite other States Parties, the United Nations and other relevant international and non-governmental

organisations to participate on an ad hoc basis. The Committee will strive to reach general agreement in all aspects of its work.

V. Coordinating committee

Purpose and mandate

21. The Coordinating Committee is a coordinating body and does not have substantive decision-making capacity. Its mandate is to coordinate the work flowing from and related to formal and informal meetings of the States Parties. The Committee will also fulfil responsibilities related to Implementation Support Unit accountability as agreed to at the Tenth Meeting of the States Parties.

Membership

22. The Coordinating Committee will be composed of the President, the President-designate during the year prior to his/her presidency, the members of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation, the members of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance, the members of the Committee on Victim Assistance, and the members of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance.

Working methods

23. In keeping with past practice, the Coordinating Committee will invite the United Nations, ICRC, ICBL and GICHD as permanent observers. The Committee will strive to reach general agreement in all aspects of its work.

VI. The President of Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences

24. The mandate of the President is to carry out the following:

(a) Chair the Meeting of the States Parties or Review Conference.

(b) Chair intersessional meetings.

(c) Chair the Committee on Cooperative Compliance.

(d) Chair the Coordinating Committee.

(e) Take the lead, in consultation with the Coordinating Committee, with respect to any issue related to the pursuit of the Convention's aims other than those related to the mandates of the above-mentioned committees, including matters related to stockpile destruction under Article 4 and transparency regarding the exceptions contained in Article 3 of the Convention.

(f) Promote the implementation and universalization of the Convention and its norms, including in relevant multilateral and regional fora, as well as at the national level.

(g) Lead efforts to mobilise sufficient resources to fund the operations of the Implementation Support Unit.

(h) Promote coordination amongst all structures established by the States Parties.

(i) Propose a set of new office-holders for agreement by the forthcoming Meeting of the States Parties. The proposed set of office-holders shall be balanced regionally as well as between States Parties in the process of implementing key obligations of the Convention, those in a position to provide financial or other assistance, and other States Parties.

(j) Present a preliminary report on activities at intersessional meetings if need be, as well as use intersessional meetings, when relevant, as a forum for addressing specific topics of interest.

(k) Present a final report on activities, as well as conclusions and recommendations if relevant, at Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conferences.

(l) Any other relevant matters.

VII. Meetings of the States Parties or Review Conference

25. In addition to the provisions of the Convention, the Conference agreed that, keeping with the mandate for Meetings of the States Parties "to consider any matter with regard to the application or implementation of this Convention," these Meetings of the States Parties could inter alia consider:

(a) Conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Article 5 implementation.

(b) Requests for extended mine clearance deadlines.

(c) If any, conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance.

(d) Conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Victim Assistance.

(e) Conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance.

(f) Any other relevant matters.

(g) The Implementation Support Unit report, audited statement and work plan / budget, pursuant to the 2010 Directive of the States Parties to the Implementation Support Unit.

26. The Conference agreed that Meetings of the States Parties will continue to be a forum where States Parties with obligations under the Convention report on their progress in their implementation of these, and other States Parties as well as other Convention actors, including the United Nations, the ICRC and the ICBL, have an opportunity to provide comments and views during these meetings.

VIII. Intersessional meetings

27. The intersessional meetings are informal meetings that need not be more than two days long, permitting them to be scheduled during the same week as the meetings of related Conventions or activities.

28. The intersessional meetings could comprise a thematic segment and a preparatory segment:

(a) The thematic segment would provide for an interactive discussion on current issues and challenges as proposed by the President.

(b) The preparatory segment will address any issue pertaining to the preparation of the Meeting of States Parties upon proposal of the President.

29. States Parties as well as other Convention actors, including the United Nations, the ICRC and the ICBL, have an opportunity to provide comments and views during these meetings.

Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

16 June 2014

Original: English

Maputo, 23 - 27 June 2014
Item 7 of the provisional agenda
Review of the operation and status of the Convention

Maputo +15
Declaration of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

Submitted by the President-Designate of the Third Review Conference

Since we first gathered fifteen years ago, tremendous progress has been achieved, but more needs to be done:

1. Fifteen years have passed since the international community first gathered in Maputo to begin the historic effort to fulfil the promise made by the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. In 1997, States, both mine-affected and others, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and numerous other non-governmental organizations around the world came together in an unprecedented partnership to ban anti-personnel landmines. Both proud of our accomplishments and mindful of what work remains, we have returned to this once mine-ravaged country, committed to complete the task of ending the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, for all people for all time.

2. In May of 1999, there were but 45 parties to the Convention and Mozambique was one of only 18 States in Africa that had committed to this Convention. There are now 161 States that are bound by this Convention and there is virtually universal acceptance of the Convention in Africa. There is widespread agreement that the use of anti-personnel mines is unacceptable and that its disastrous humanitarian and socio-economic consequences should be ended once for ever. For this reason, we will spare no effort to continue promoting universal adherence to the Convention and observance of its norms.

3. When we first gathered in Maputo, the clearance of all mined areas was a distant prospect and perhaps, to some, unachievable. Today, almost 30 States have completed this effort, which proves completion of our mine clearance obligations is within reach. We remain deeply concerned that emplaced mines still continue to cause death and suffering around the world. Therefore our efforts to demine must be carried out in the most efficient and expedient manner.

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4. In Maputo in 1999, the international community first expressed that a comprehensive approach to victim assistance is required with our efforts being part of broader approaches to health care, rehabilitation, human rights and other domains. The Convention has made a difference and we remain very much aware of our enduring obligations to mine victims. Acting within broader national and international policies and frameworks related to disability, health, education, employment, development and poverty reduction will help ensure further progress towards the full, equal and effective participation of mine victims in society.

We will continue our efforts based on a unique spirit of cooperation and partnership:

5. In Maputo in 1999, we created innovative mechanisms to address circumstances specific to that time. Returning today to where international efforts to implement to the Convention all began, we embrace the opportunity to adapt in order to meet the challenges of this day and beyond. The success of the Convention is based on the combination of national ownership and international cooperation. As sovereign States, we are individually responsible for compliance with, and implementation of, the Convention in all areas under our respective jurisdiction or control. As a community of States, we know that partnerships, including those between affected and other States, the United Nations and other international organisations, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and civil society, will accelerate the ending of the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines. Fifteen years after our first high-level gathering in Maputo, it is clearer than ever that maintaining this Convention's unique strong spirit of cooperation is essential to overcome remaining challenges.

We are committed to comply and complete:

6. The sense of optimism prevalent in Maputo in 1999 has been matched by the reality that ending the era of anti-personnel mines is indeed possible. We affirm our ambition to maintain strict observance of the Convention's norms, to complete implementation of our time-bound obligations as soon as possible **[and no later than by 2025]**, to ensure that by that time there are no new mine victims in areas under our jurisdiction or control, and ensure the full, equal and effective participation of mine victims in society.

7. Determined to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, we will:

- Fulfil our obligations to destroy all stockpiled anti-personnel mines and clear all mined areas as soon as possible, mindful that cooperation will accelerate completion of these tasks.
- Ensure compliance with the Convention's comprehensive prohibitions on the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines, and facilitate compliance with our obligations under this Convention, by working together in the Convention's unique spirit of cooperation.
- Continue to promote universal observance of the Convention's norms, condemn the use of anti-personnel mines by any actor, including by armed non-state actors, work to prevent any future use, and appeal to the world to join us.
- Increase our efforts to address the needs of mine victims in a concrete manner with the aim of achieving their full, equal and effective participation in society.

- Ensure the involvement of mine victims in our efforts, which will be done in a gender- and age-appropriate manner. The dignity and well-being of survivors, their families and communities will be at the core of our efforts.
- Strengthen national ownership and capacity, enhance cooperation, and establish partnerships for completion.
- Stay focused and spare no efforts until the main object and purpose of the Convention are fully materialised.

8. Having returned to Mozambique, we are committed to realise this ambition, guided by the Maputo Action Plan during the period 2014 to 2019.

Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

18 June 2014

Original: English

Maputo, 23 - 27 June 2014
Item 10 of the provisional agenda
Consideration of submissions of States Parties as provided for in Article 5

Analysis of the request submitted by the Democratic Republic of the Congo for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention

Submitted by the President of the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions

1. The Democratic Republic of the Congo ratified the Convention on 2 May 2002. The Convention entered into force for the Democratic Republic of the Congo on 1 November 2002. In its initial transparency report submitted on 30 April 2003, the Democratic Republic of the Congo reported areas under its jurisdiction or control containing, or suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines. The Democratic Republic of the Congo was obliged to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control by 1 November 2012. The Democratic Republic of the Congo, believing that it will be unable to do so by that date, submitted a request to the 2011 Eleventh Meeting of the States Parties (11MSP) for a 26 month extension of its deadline, until 1 January 2015. The 11MSP agreed unanimously to grant the request.

2. In granting the Democratic Republic of the Congo's request in 2011, the 11MSP, while noting that it may have been unfortunate that after almost ten years since entry into force a State Party was unable to account for what remains to be done, it was positive that the Democratic Republic of the Congo intended to take steps to garner an understanding of the true remaining extent of the challenge and to develop plans accordingly that precisely project the amount of time that will be required to complete Article 5 implementation. In this context, the 11MSP noted the importance of the Democratic Republic of the Congo requesting only the period of time necessary to assess relevant facts and develop a meaningful forward looking plan based on these facts. The 11MSP further noted that, by requesting a 26 month extension, the Democratic Republic of the Congo was projecting that it would need approximately two years from the date of submission of its request to obtain clarity regarding the remaining challenge, produce a detailed plan and submit a second extension request.

3. On 7 April 2014 the Democratic Republic of the Congo submitted to the President of the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties (13MSP) a request for an extension of its 1

January 2015 deadline. The Democratic Republic of the Congo's request is for six years, until 1 January 2021.

4. The request indicates, as did the request granted in 2011, that the Democratic Republic of the Congo's understanding of the original challenge at entry into force included 182 suspected hazardous areas. Added to these were 722 suspected mined areas reported by national and international operators with the baseline used to describe the original challenge totalling 904 suspected hazardous areas. The request indicates, as did the request granted in 2011, that initial survey efforts were mostly carried out on the basis of misconceptions, were often uncoordinated and were not carried out by adequately-qualified staff. This led to overestimations of the number and dimension of areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW).

5. The request indicates that the remaining challenge as noted in the previous request included, after "data base cleanup," which took place during the period of 2010-2012, 82 mined areas which included 12 confirmed hazardous areas in which clearance would be carried out and 70 suspected hazardous areas in which technical survey would be carried out. The request also indicates, as did the request granted in 2011, that the Democratic Republic of the Congo carried out General Mine Action Assessment (GMAA) and General Mine Action Survey (GMAS) activities with a view to provide a new baseline of contamination in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The request further indicates that the GMAS started in April 2009 and was due to be completed at the end of 2012 and that, in terms of the GMAS and GMAA activities to be carried out, 121 of the 145 territories of the Democratic Republic of the Congo remained to be surveyed. The request further indicates that because the General Survey had not been completed in the entire territory, it was difficult at the time to offer an accurate account of what remained to be done. The request further indicates that, in addition to this, the Democratic Republic of the Congo committed to carry out non-technical survey of areas reported through surveys initially carried out by demining organizations and to carry out technical survey of the 182 mined areas and of any new areas that would have been identified during non-technical survey efforts, among other activities.

6. The request indicates that, after systematic verification of the 82 mined areas, 13 areas, measuring approximately 522,544 square metres, were categorised as confirmed hazardous areas and 69 areas, measuring 13,610,804 square metres, were categorised as suspected hazardous areas. The request indicates that, over the course of the extension period, 19 mined areas measuring 7,903,465 square metres were addressed with a total of 162 mines destroyed over the course of 2011-2013. These 19 mined areas include 2 of the 13 confirmed hazardous areas which were cleared, leaving 11 confirmed hazardous areas, measuring approximately 500,882 square metres, to be addressed. In addition, 17 of the 69 suspected hazardous areas were technically surveyed and released, leaving 52 suspected hazardous areas measuring approximately 1,869,521 square metres, to be addressed. The request further indicates that during the course of the extension period, the city of Kinshasa and the Bandundu and Bas Congo Province were declared free of anti-personnel mines.

7. The request indicates that, since the Democratic Republic of the Congo's initial request was granted, GMAS and GMAA activities continued and during ongoing GMAA activities 13 new suspected hazardous areas measuring 350,603,587 square metres were identified. The request further indicates that the database now contains records of 76 areas resulting of GMAS and GMAA operations.

8. The request indicates that the Democratic Republic of the Congo, taking into account the short time remaining before its 1 January 2015 extended deadline, noted that the vastness of the country, weather constraints and specifically the difficulties of access due to road infrastructure led to the GMAS and GMAA survey methodologies taking a long time and evaluated that while progress was too slow, additional teams were also too

expensive. The request further indicates that for these reasons the Democratic Republic of the Congo decided to discontinue the GMAA and GMAS process and established a National Survey on Anti-Personnel Mine Contamination, which was also combined with a survey of cluster munition remnants.

9. The request indicates that the National Survey on Landmine and Cluster Munition Contamination in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was originally scheduled to be carried out between 1 May 2013 and 31 October 2013 but was extended until 31 December 2013. Four international operators (MAG, NPA, HI and DCA) and five national organisations (CRRDC, ADIC, BADU, and SYLAM AFRILAM) took part in the process. The request indicates that the survey collected information from more than 4,000 people in 142 meetings in 8 provinces, 14 districts and 40 territories. The request further indicated that a total of 403 suspected hazardous areas were surveyed.

10. The States Parties mandated to analyse requests submitted under Article 5 of the Convention (hereafter referred to as "the analysing group") noted the decision of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to discontinue the GMAS and GMAA methodologies which were found to be too slow, too expensive and difficult to implement on a territory of the size of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In this regard, the analysing group noted that this decision led to more efficient efforts on the part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to obtain clarity on the remaining challenge.

11. The request indicates that the National Survey on Landmine and Cluster Munition Contamination was carried out using the following methodology: (a) a study of the results of all GMAS and GMAA activities; (b) analysis of evidence of conflicts or movements of troops in each portion of the territory remaining to be controlled; (c) meetings targeting provincial authorities, administrators of territories, mayors of municipalities, traditional chiefs, village chiefs and targeted population groups; (d) deployment of non-technical survey teams in areas identified during meetings, with survey teams being composed of members of national organisations, marking of dangerous areas and conduct of mine risk education sessions; and (e) final data analysis and mapping of contamination map based on survey activities. The request also indicates that 99 per cent of identified suspected mined areas were marked during the process. The request further indicates that mine awareness and mine risk education trainings were organised in villages visited by the survey teams with approximately 27,000 men, women, boys and girls reached. The analysing group noted that it was positive that the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in accordance with its obligations under Article 5.2, had marked suspected areas and took measures to warn populations of the risks posed by mines.

12. The request indicates that, in the process of execution of the National Survey of Landmine and Cluster Munition Contamination, survey teams cancelled areas after analysis of the history of the conflict and confirmation of the use of land, as well as when a minimum of 10 people of the village certified that no contamination existed in the village. The request indicates that of the 403 suspected hazardous areas surveyed, 238 were cancelled, with no contamination confirmed based on information provided by respondents. The request also indicates that, in the process, 54 new areas were identified as suspected hazardous areas measuring an estimated 411,050 square metres in 7 provinces, with the Equateur Province being the most heavily contaminated. The analysing group noted that it was unclear if these 54 areas were classified as suspected hazardous areas in accordance with the guidance provided by the United Nations' International Mine Action Standards, which state that "areas presenting only indirect evidence of the presence of mines/ERW should be classified as suspected hazardous areas" and that "fear on its own is not legitimate evidence of contamination", with fear needing "to be substantiated with other evidence before an area is defined as a suspected hazardous area."

13. The request indicates that in order to assess the extent and type of contamination, the data collected by the GMAS and GMAA was extracted from Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) and were exported and merged with the data collected during the National Survey on Landmine and Cluster Munition Contamination. The request also indicates that after analysis and a careful study, data recorded in IMSMA corresponded to 76 mined areas measuring a total of 1.4 million square metres. The request also indicates that these areas from the database were added to the new data from the national contamination survey. The request further indicates that there are a total of 130 mined areas that have been identified, measuring an estimated 1.8 million square metres. These areas do not take into account the territories of Aru and Dungu in the Oriental Province, which were not surveyed due to security reasons. The analysing group noted that a nation-wide non-technical survey enabled the Democratic Republic of the Congo to collect the information necessary to garner an understanding of the true remaining extent of the challenge. The analysing group also noted that it was positive that the work carried out by the Democratic Republic of the Congo led to significant reduction in the size of the suspected hazardous areas from 14,133,348 square metres to 1,800,000 square metres.

14. The request indicates, as did the request granted in 2011, that the release of land has been carried out through non-technical and technical survey. The request further indicates that operators have employed their own standard operating procedures, and have been complying with national standards in carrying out non-technical and technical surveys. The release of land is also carried out through demining/complete clearance of minefields through the following six steps: surveys (level 1 and 2), preparation of sites for demining (implementation plan), demining/clearance, quality management and post-demining inspection, land release, and post-clearance documentation (report and map making). The request also indicates that, to date, the clearance methods used include manual demining (with detector, prodder and manual excavation) and mechanical demining, both including the use of mine detection dogs (MDD). The request further indicates that, in close collaboration with the coordination of the Congolese Mine Action Centre (CCLAM), land is released to the authorities through the establishment of quality documents, which are prepared by the operators under the guidance of the CCLAM's Quality Management Department, signed jointly by the operator in charge of implementation, the local chiefs representing the owners/users/direct beneficiaries of the cleared land, and a representative of the National Authority. The analysing group noted the variety of references to survey types in the request (e.g., non-technical survey, technical survey, Level 1 Survey, Level 2 Survey, GMAS, GMAA, etc.) and noted the importance of clarifying how each survey related to the imperative to ascertain whether there is evidence that would to classifying areas as confirmed hazardous areas or suspected hazardous areas.

15. The request indicates that the Democratic Republic of the Congo has made efforts to improve coordination and that in this regard, law 11/007 of 9 July 2011 on the implementation of the Convention in the Democratic Republic of the Congo establishes a national mine action commission composed of four ministries and the Congolese Mine Action Centre (CCLAM) as the national focal point for the coordination of all mine action activities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The request also indicates that a national strategic plan for the period 2012-2016 was adopted and that it was accompanied by a multiyear work plan and by a transition plan to be implemented by the end of 2014 by the United Nations Mine Action Coordination Centre in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The request also indicates that 24 national mine action standards were developed and that a new standard on land release is currently being developed. The request further indicates that, every three months, coordination meetings with all the mine action operators present in the Democratic Republic of the Congo are held. The analysing group noted that the Democratic Republic of the Congo fulfilled its commitment to finalise a national strategy and adopt national standards, as committed in the request granted in 2011. The

analysing group further noted the importance of the Democratic Republic of the Congo finalising the development of a national standard on land release.

16. The request indicates that the Democratic Republic of the Congo has made efforts to improve information management and that, in this regard and in planning for the implementation of the transition plan, the national programme's Head of Information Management Department has gone through the Level A1 Administrator course with the support of the GICHD, in Mozambique. The request further indicates that six information management officers have been trained by NPA and UNMACC.

17. The request indicates that the Democratic Republic of the Congo has complied with the international and national mine action standards to release land and conduct demining operations, although in the absence of a national standard on land release. The request also indicates that the Democratic Republic of the Congo has a quality assurance and control service that, in addition to accrediting demining organisations, is charged with validating areas that have been cleared. The request indicates that the UNMACC, in close collaboration with the CCLAM, has established five regional operations offices, with these mainly responsible for managing quality assurance in their respective regions. The request indicates that these regional operations offices deploy teams to check the demining area when demining operations are almost complete, where, in the presence of the operator, these teams complete quality control documentation. The request also indicates that if required standards are met, the work is accepted and the operator is discharged. If standards are not met, the operator is required to return to the area in order to present it later for renewed inspection. The request also indicates that following all these steps, a joint CCLAM / UNMACC team is deployed for final validation of the work conducted. The request further indicates that, depending on priorities, the urgency and the availability of land from one community to another, total land release or partial land release to the local authorities is carried out. The request also indicates that six quality assurance inspectors detached from the Democratic Republic of the Congo's Armed Forces (FARDC) have been trained in Benin and they carry out their task of quality inspectors rotating amongst the five regional offices.

18. The request indicates that, in terms of operational capacity, the Congolese National Police and the Engineering Unit of the FARDC work in close cooperation with the CCLAM. The request also indicates that several training courses have been organised in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and abroad for personnel detached from the FARDC, including the Operations Chief and the CCLAM's Quality Inspectors As well, more than 70 EOD experts and deminers have been trained with technical support from UNMACC, MAG and NPA.

19. The request indicates that the mined areas block, for the most part, access to farm land (95 percent), and, to a lesser extent, roads and paths (5 percent). The request also indicates that the humanitarian, social, economic and environmental implications of areas known or suspected to contain mines are most felt in the northeastern parts of Katanga, in Kisangani, in the territories of Dimbelenge and Dekese, the northern part of Maniema province and the south-eastern part of Equateur where the presence of anti-personnel mines is still a major obstacle to agricultural and economic activities in the most affected communities. The request also indicates that refugees and internally displaced people are also impacted by mines. The request further indicates that to this day, more than 2,500 mines and other ERW victims have never received adequate assistance.

20. As noted, the Democratic Republic of the Congo requests a six-year extension, until 31 December 2020. The purpose of this requested period is to (a) conduct technical surveys and clear the 130 identified mined areas; and, (b) conduct non-technical and technical surveys as well as clear and/or release areas in the territories of Aru and Dungu in the Oriental province. The implementation of the plan depends on the financial situation,

logistical issues, the security situation and geography (dense vegetation, changeable climate with heavy rainy seasons). The request further indicates that from an operational point of view, taking into account the history of demining in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, operational capacity, and financial resources allocated to demining between 2009 and 2013, approximately 47 months would be needed to free the Democratic Republic of the Congo from mine contamination, keeping the same operators working at the same pace without interruption. The request further indicates that additional time would be required to conduct non-technical and technical survey in the Aru and Dungu territories, hence a requested period of 6 years.

21. The analysing group noted that the Democratic Republic of the Congo was projecting that it would need approximately four years from 1 January 2015 to address the 130 identified areas and that additional time would be necessary to clarify the remaining implementation challenge in the two territories of the Oriental Province that could not be accessed during the national survey. The analysing group noted the importance of the Democratic Republic of the Congo keeping the States Parties apprised of changes in the security situation in the territories of Aru and Dungu which would enable survey and clearance activities to take place.

22. The request indicates, as did the request granted in 2011, that the circumstances that have impeded implementation in the initial ten-year period include two major factors: the lack of adequate training for the conduct of surveys and random or uncoordinated employment of assets of organisations involved in surveys. The request further indicates that these impeding circumstances led to surveys carried from 2002 being incomplete, unsystematic and having unreliable results due to the surveys being marked by a lack of precision and an overestimation of the dimensions of the suspected areas. The request also indicates that this issue has been exasperated by (a) the lack of registries and maps of maps laid by the warring parties; (b) the size of the Democratic Republic of the Congo; (c) the poor state of road infrastructure, with most roads being unpaved and in poor condition; (d) difficult meteorological conditions; (e) high and dense vegetation in some suspected or confirmed mined areas rendering difficult the demining operations and technical surveys and slowing the rate of demining; (f) insufficient funding; and (g) other humanitarian emergencies, such as the return of refugees and war displaced.

23. The request indicates that based on the history of demining in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, it can be concluded that at least 30 percent of areas suspected to be mined can be released following technical survey. The request further indicates that, as a result, the total area to be demined can be estimated to be approximately 1.3 million square metres. Based on these estimates, annual projections for demining are as follows: 319,304 square metres in 2015, 270,000 square metres in 2016, 220,000 square metres metres in 2017, 190,000 square metres in 2018, 150,000 square metres in 2019 and 130,000 square metres in 2020. The analysing group noted that the annual projections in the request do not include projections for land to be released by technical survey.

24. The request indicates that an operational plan will established through the revision of the national strategic plan 2012-2016, which is scheduled to take place by the start of the extension period. This plan will take into account the country's priorities focusing on the release of inhabited and agricultural areas, areas for road infrastructure rehabilitation, and areas for the return of refugees and war displaced.

25. The request indicates that the plan will be implemented by (a) the Congolese National Mine Action Centre (CCLAM), which will coordinate, plan and follow up all mine action activities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, (b) UNMAS, which will support the government in its coordination activities and WHICH will support CCLAM in strengthening its capacity, and (c) national and international operators, including non-governmental organisations and commercial companies, engaged in demining, mine risk

education and victim assistance activities. The request further indicates that the Democratic Republic of the Congo intends to use the existing capacity of operators present in the country and to involve more elements of the Democratic Republic of the Congo's Armed Forces and of the Congolese National Police. In addition, the request indicates that the Democratic Republic of the Congo intends to reinforce the capacities of the CCLAM, to ensure that the transition period with the UN Mine Action Coordination Centre comes to an end, to reinforce and consolidate the partnership between international and national non-governmental organisations and to finalise the land release standard. The analysing group noted the importance of the Democratic Republic of the Congo strengthening its national capacity to be able to efficiently implement its operational plan.

26. The request indicates that the total cost for activities planned during the period of the extension amounts to around US$ 20 million, with US$ 19,431,730 for demining activities and US$ 568,270 dollars for survey and demining in the Aru and Dungu territories in the Oriental province. The request further indicates that annual costs decrease as the areas to be addressed decrease in size. The request also indicates that the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has committed to contribute around US$ 600,000 per year to cover expenses linked to the functioning of the programme, including coordination activities. The request indicates that CCLAM intends to encourage the government to increase the budget line linked to these activities and diversify its contribution to also cover operational aspects of the work, to use national coordination meetings to mobilise resources in close cooperation with UNMAS, to organise meetings in cooperation with UNMAS in the margins of international meetings to attract support from donors and to accompany national and international operators in their efforts to mobilise funds with their traditional partners. The analysing group welcomed the commitment of the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to provide around $600,000 annually during the period of the extension to cover functioning expenses of the programme. As concerns resource mobilisation, the analysing group noted the commitment of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to implement a resource mobilisation strategy and noted the importance of keeping the States Parties apprised of steps taken to fulfil these commitments.

27. The request indicates that the implementation of the plan depends on the assumption that the current available capacity will increase during the extension period, allowing for the creation of additional demining units.

28. The analysing group noted that the Democratic Republic of the Congo had made great efforts to largely comply with the commitment it had made, as recorded by the decisions of the 11MSP, to garner an understanding of the true remaining extent of the challenge and to produce a detailed plan that precisely projects the amount of time that will be required to complete Article 5 implementation. However the analysing group noted that while steps have been taken to clarify the remaining challenge and while annual demining projections have been prepared, a detailed annual work plan for survey and clearance leading to completion is missing. The analysing group noted the commitment of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to establish an operational plan by 1 January 2015 and, in this regard, the analysing group noted that the Convention would benefit from the Democratic Republic of the Congo submitting to the States Parties, by 30 April 2015, a clear and detailed survey and clearance plan leading to completion.

29. The analysing group noted that the Convention would benefit also from the Democratic Republic of the Congo informing the States Parties, on an annual basis, as relevant, on the following:

(a) The number, location and size of remaining mined areas, plans to clear or otherwise release these areas and information on areas already released, disaggregated by release through clearance, technical survey and non-technical survey.

(b) Efforts to mobilise funding to contribute to covering the costs of implementing the Democratic Republic of the Congo's national plans for survey and mine clearance,

(c) Efforts undertaken to strengthen national capacity to implement the Democratic Republic of the Congo's national plan, and,

(d) Whether circumstances which had previously impeded the timely implementation of the Convention were continuing to affect the fulfilment of the Democratic Republic of the Congo's obligations.

Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

18 June 2014

Original: English

Maputo, 23 - 27 June 2014
Item 10 of the provisional agenda
Consideration of submissions of States Parties as provided for in Article 5

Analysis of the request submitted by Zimbabwe for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention

Submitted by the President of the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions

1. Zimbabwe ratified the Convention on 18 June 1998. The Convention entered into force for Zimbabwe on 1 March 1999. In its initial transparency report submitted on 11 January 2000, Zimbabwe reported areas under its jurisdiction or control containing, or suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines. Zimbabwe was obliged to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control by 1 March 2009. Zimbabwe, believing that it would be unable to do so by that date, submitted a request to the 2008 Ninth Meeting of the States Parties (9MSP) for a 22 month extension of its deadline, until 1 January 2011. The 9MSP agreed unanimously to grant the request.

2. In granting Zimbabwe's request in 2008, the 9MSP, while noting that it may have been unfortunate that after almost ten years since entry into force a State Party was unable to specify how much work remains and how it will be carried out, it was positive that Zimbabwe intended to take steps to garner an understanding of the true remaining extent of the challenge and to develop plans accordingly that precisely project the amount of time that will be required to complete Article 5 implementation. In this context, the 9MSP noted the importance of Zimbabwe requesting only the period of time necessary to assess relevant facts and develop a meaningful forward-looking plan based on these facts. The 9MSP further noted that, by requesting a 22 month extension, Zimbabwe was projecting that it would need approximately two years from the date of submission of its request to obtain clarity regarding the remaining challenge, produce a detailed plan and submit a second extension request.

3. On 3 August 2010 Zimbabwe submitted to the President of the Second Review Conference a request for extension of its 1 January 2011 deadline. On 28 September 2010 Zimbabwe submitted to the President of the Second Review Conference a revised request for extension incorporating additional information provided in response to the President's

questions. Zimbabwe's request was for an additional 24 months, until 1 January 2013. The Tenth Meeting of the States Parties (10MSP) agreed unanimously to grant the request.

4. In granting Zimbabwe's request in 2010, the 10MSP, while noting that Zimbabwe had not complied with the commitment it had made, as recorded by the 9MSP, to garner an understanding of the true remaining extent of the challenge and to develop plans accordingly that precisely project the amount of time that will be required to compete Article 5 implementation, it was positive that Zimbabwe had committed, by 1 January 2013, to have built its capacity, improved its efficiency, carried out survey and engaged those in a position to provide assistance. In this context, the 10MSP noted that, as Zimbabwe had made it clear that the provisions of external support was necessary to fully implement the plan contained within its request, Zimbabwe could inspire greater confidence on the part of those in a position to provide assistance by increasing national ownership and enhancing its humanitarian demining effort in ways that would cost little, including by adopting IMAS-compliant national standards and strengthening civilian demining authorities. The 10MSP further noted that, by requesting a 24 month extension, Zimbabwe was projecting that it would need approximately two years from the date of submission of its request to obtain clarity regarding the remaining challenge, produce a detailed plan and submit a third extension request.

5. On 30 March 2012, Zimbabwe submitted to the President of the Eleventh Meeting of the States Parties (11MSP) a request for extension of its 1 January 2013 deadline. On 29 October 2012, Zimbabwe submitted to the 11MSP President a revised request for extension incorporating additional information provided in response to the President's questions. Zimbabwe's request was for 24 months, until 1 January 2015. The Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties (12MSP) agreed unanimously to grant the request.

6. In granting Zimbabwe's request in 2012, the 12MSP, while noting that Zimbabwe had not complied with the commitment it had made, as recorded by the 10MSP, to garner an understanding of the true remaining extent of the challenge and to develop plans accordingly that precisely project the amount of time that will be required to compete Article 5 implementation, it was positive that Zimbabwe had made efforts to build its capacity and improve its efficiency by engaging the support of international organizations and developing survey and clearance plans for the remaining area. In this context, the 12MSP noted the importance of Zimbabwe making use of the full range of practical methods to release, with a high level of confidence, areas suspected of containing anti-personnel mines, as recommended by the 9MSP, and encouraged Zimbabwe to continue seeking improved land release and certification techniques which could lead to Zimbabwe fulfilling its obligations in a shorter time frame. The 12MSP further noted that, by requesting a 24 month extension, Zimbabwe was projecting that it would need approximately two-and-one-quarter years from the date of submission of its request to obtain clarity regarding the remaining challenge, produce a detailed plan and submit a fourth extension request.

7. On 31 December 2013, Zimbabwe submitted to the President of the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties (13MSP) a request for extension of its 1 January 2015 deadline. On 19 March 2014, the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies wrote to Zimbabwe to request additional information. Zimbabwe provided a response to the Co-Chairs' questions on 1 April 2014. Zimbabwe's request is for 3 years, until 1 January 2018.

8. The request indicates that Zimbabwe now understands the original contamination as amounting to 10 mined areas measuring a total of 310.65 square kilometres: Victoria Falls to Mlibizi (88 square kilometres), Musengezi to Rwenya (141.68 square kilometres), Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner (22.9 square kilometres), Rusitu to Muzite Mission (30 square kilometres), Sheba Forest to Beacon Hill (20 square kilometres), Burma Valley

(1.32 square kilometres), Rushinga (2.8 square kilometres), Lusulu (2.8 square kilometres), Mukumbura (0.55 square kilometres) and Kariba (0.6 square kilometres).

9. The request indicates, as did the request granted in 2010, that based on military planning processes and limited number of records available, together with the experience of the National Mine Clearance Squadron (NMCS), three different types of mined areas can be found in Zimbabwe: Cordon Sanitaire, consisting of three rows of subsurface anti-personnel mines laid in a standard pattern with a width of 25 metres emplaced close to or on the international border; ploughshare minefields, consisting essentially of three rows of ploughshare directional fragmentation anti-personnel mines mounted on 0.5 to 1 metre high stakes, protected by sub-surface anti-personnel mines; and, reinforced ploughshare minefields, which consist of 6 rows of ploughshare directional fragmentation anti-personnel mines mounted on 0.5 to 1 metre high stakes, protected by sub-surface anti-personnel mines. The request further indicates that there has been some variation in the pattern employed as well as in the types of mines laid in these areas.

10. The request indicates that, while Zimbabwe does not maintain a reliable database of landmine casualties, Zimbabwe estimates that over 1,561 individuals have been killed or injured by mines and that more than 120,020 livestock and thousands of wild animals having been killed since 1980, and that the actual number of casualties is likely much greater. The request further indicates that the HALO Trust and Norwegian People' Aid (NPA) have been collecting data as they conduct survey and clearance and that, through community liaison and mine risk education efforts, cases reported have been collated and submitted to ZIMAC. The request also indicates that the greatest impact on the population concerns the Musengezi to Rwenya and the Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner minefields. In addition, the request indicates that mines continue to have an impact on rural communities, commercial farming and tourism. The States Parties mandated to analyse requests submitted under Article 5 of the Convention (hereafter referred to as the 'analysing group') noted that, while the request indicates that "casualties are still being reported", Zimbabwe has not collected and provided data on victims disaggregated by sex in keeping with the commitments made in Action #25 of the Cartagena Action Plan and welcomed the commitment of Zimbabwe to collect information concerning landmine casualties.

11. The Co-Chairs asked Zimbabwe if, given that Zimbabwe has been working in the Sango Border Post region for a number of years and given that surveys have been conducted in a number of communities by NPA and the HALO Trust, it could provide more specific information on the socio-economic impact of mines on communities adjacent to specific mined areas. Zimbabwe responded by indicating that the impact in communities adjacent to Musengezi and Rwenya minefields is significant as communities are living, working and commuting past minefields on a daily basis and lives are affected in multiple ways including by continued accidents by humans and cattle and the blockage of land which could be used productively. Zimbabwe indicated that displaced communities will return to mined areas once the areas are cleared with development activities earmarked for cleared land including building of more accessible schools, clinics and safe border crossing routes. Zimbabwe further indicated that in the Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill, Burma Valley and Rusitu to Muzite Mission minefields, surveys have been conducted in 13 communities, which indicated that more than 250 households have been displaced as a result of the mine contamination problem with most people having relocated to Mozambique. Zimbabwe further indicates that many of these households have indicated that, once mine clearance has been concluded, they would return to areas where the land is fertile and that, in some areas, the locals have unknowingly entered contaminated areas for the purpose of cultivating land.

12. The request indicates that anti-personnel mines have denied farmers about 167.28 square kilometres of fertile land (141.68 square kilometres in Mukumbura and 25.6 square

kilometres in Rusitu/Muzite area), freedom of movement, and access to potable water sources and grazing land, and that commercial farming and tourism have been negatively affected. The analysing group noted that progress in the implementation of Article 5 during the requested extension period had the potential of making a significant contribution to improving human safety and socioeconomic conditions in Zimbabwe.

13. The request indicates that Zimbabwe has used both military and commercial assets to demine. The request further indicates that, as Zimbabwe's information on mined areas stems from outdated 1994 technical survey reports, any future activities will need to involve resurvey of the remaining minefields to determine the full extent of contamination, using the latest survey methodologies. The request also indicates that survey and clearance of the remaining 8 mined areas will be carried out with the support of the HALO Trust and NPA, with the HALO Trust tasked with survey and clearance of the Musengezi to Rwenya, Rushinga and Mukumbura mined areas, NPA tasked with the survey and clearance of the Rusitu to Muzite Mission, Sheba forest and Burma Valley mined areas, and the NMCS tasked with the survey and clearance of the Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner, Lusulu and Kariba mined areas. The request indicates that surveys commenced in November 2012 and are expected to be completed by September 2014.

14. The request recalls that efforts to demine began soon after Zimbabwe gained independence with a total of 101.775 square kilometres having been cleared to date, erroneously reported as 306.46 square kilometres in Zimbabwe's previous extension requests, culminating in the destruction of 208,338 anti-personnel mines. The request indicates that clearance has been completed in the Victoria Falls to Mlibizi minefield in 2005 (88 square kilometres) as well as the Kariba minefield in 2013 (0.6 square kilometres). The request also indicates that, in the early post-war period, an average of 600 items of unexploded ordnance (UXO) were recovered annually and that, in the period 2000-2013, a total of 1,939 UXO have been recovered.

15. The request indicated that NPA has conducted non-technical, technical and impact assessment surveys in three minefields (Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill, Burma Valley and Rusitu to Muzite) during the period of 12 November 2012 to 11 October 2013, with a total of 17,150,000 square meters covered during the non-technical survey and 37,146 square metres during technical survey with a total of 15 communities surveyed during impact assessment exercises. The request also indicated that the survey of the Burma Valley has ascertained that the width of the minefield is actually 150 meters and not the 300 meters previously estimated. The report further indicates that with the current strength of 20 deminers, and at the current clearance rate of 40 square meters per deminer per day, it would take NPA an estimated 17 years to clear the 3 minefields. The request further indicates that an increase in the operational staff up to 30 deminers is planned for 2014 and beyond which will reduce the projected period significantly, with the incremental increase in capacity dependent on an increase in donor funding.

16. The request indicates that the HALO Trust commenced survey operations in mid-August 2013 with two survey teams having completed survey from the Ruya River west to Mukumbura town and began surveys of the Mukumbura minefield. The request indicates that, by the end of November 2013, the HALO Trust had surveyed a frontage of 79.3 kilometres and of the areas surveyed the width of the cordon sanitaire minefields has been 30 meters while the average width of ploughshare surveyed has been 61 meters, with this being a significant reduction from the 400 meter width previously estimated. The request further indicates, however, that the Mukumbura minefield has an average width of 142 meters instead of the earlier estimated width of 25 meters. The request also indicates that the full extent of contamination will be known after the completion of surveys. The request further indicates that the HALO Trust will seek to increase its capacity in the Musengezi to

Rwenya minefield from 3 sections in November 2013, to ten sections by April 2014 to 12 sections in 2015.

17. The Co-Chairs asked Zimbabwe if it could offer information on the status of survey efforts. Zimbabwe responded by indicting that the survey operations have been completed in Rusitu to Muzite Mission, Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill, and Burma Valley minefields and that survey of the remaining minefields (Musengezi to Rwenya, Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner, Lusulu and Mukumbura) will be concluded in September 2014.

18. The request indicates that, to date, it is understood that the remaining challenge amounts to 8 minefields measuring 208.88 square kilometres.

Table 1
Estimates of the size of remaining mined areas

Musengezi to Rwenya	*141.68 square kilometres*
Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner	14.13 square kilometres
Rusitu to Muzite Mission	25.6 square kilometres
Sheba Forest to Leacon Hill	20 square kilometres
Burma Valley	1.32 square kilometres
Rushinga	2.8 square kilometres
Lusulu	2.8 square kilometres
Mukumbura	0.55 square kilometres
TOTAL	208.88 square kilometres

19. The request indicates the following, which in Zimbabwe's view, acted as circumstances impeding implementation since entry into force: (a) inadequate funding for demining from the government; (b) insufficient demining equipment, and; (c) the impact of sanctions imposed by some potential donors. The request also indicates that many of these circumstances no longer apply given the support that Zimbabwe is now receiving from international organizations.

20. The request indicates that, as the minefields are known, the method used to release land has been through full clearance through manual demining with clearance being preceded by a technical survey to ensure that resources are not wasted clearing areas without contamination. The request further indicates that, as a result of training in November 2013, which was supported by the International Committee of the Red Cross, ZIMAC now has a quality assurance and quality control team. This team will carry out quality control on areas cleared by the HALO Trust and NPA, with the team having done so with respect to 50,989 square meters of cleared area on the Burma Valley minefield during the period of 9 – 13 December 2013, thus permitting the area's release. The Co-Chairs asked Zimbabwe if it has considered introducing additional resources, such as mechanical clearance assets. Zimbabwe indicated that terrain, vegetation and the density of mines suggest that the employment of mechanical means is expensive and difficult, but that this technology could be considered to be employed in clearing access routes and base lanes.

21. As noted, Zimbabwe's request is for 3 years (until 1 February 2018) with Zimbabwe's rationale for this being that, over the course of the next three years, Zimbabwe will gain a clearer picture of the remaining challenge as well as a good idea of what progress will be possible once partners are at full capacity and other possible partners and donors find a way to support Zimbabwe's mine action programme. The request further indicates that, following the process of survey, retraining and consolidation of resources by deminers and the work by the two international demining organizations, Zimbabwe is

confident that it will be able to embark on clearance of mined areas based on a clear and effective plan for the final removal of all remaining minefields as required under Article 5.

22. The request indicates that completion of survey in the remaining areas will allow for the development of a comprehensive clearance plan for Zimbabwe and that Zimbabwe will report on survey results at the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties. The request further indicates that the plan and timelines have been put together in collaboration with partner organisations and that it is important to highlight that the plan will be amended as organizations deploy staff to the field and learn lessons from operations in Zimbabwe. The request also contains a number of milestones to be accomplished during the extension period.

Table 2
Milestones to be achieved during the requested extension period

Year	*Milestones*
2015	• Clear 1,232,000 square meters (432,000 square meters in Musengezi to Rwenya minefield, 550,000 square meters in Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner minefield, and 250,000 square meters in Rusitu to Muzite Mission minefield). • Develop National Strategic Plan on the basis of survey results. • Provide a report on the outcomes of surveys as well as on ongoing clearance activities and an update on number, size and location of any mined areas and on its programme for addressing these areas
2016	• Clear 1,280,000 square meters (432,000 square meters in Musengezi to Rwenya minefield, 550,000 square meters in Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner minefield, and 300,000 square meters in Rusitu to Muzite Mission minefield). • Provide a report on ongoing clearance activities and an update on number, size and location of any mined areas and on its programme for addressing these areas
2017	• Clearance of 1,504,000 square meters (554,000 square meters in Musengezi to Rwenya minefield, 600,000 square meters in Sango Border Post to Crooks Corner minefield, and 350,000 square meters in Rusitu to Muzite Mission minefield). • Provide a report on the outcomes of ongoing clearance activities and an update on number, size and location of any mined areas and on its programme for addressing these areas • Submit a new clearance plan in the context of submitting a new request for an extended deadline.

23. The request indicates that in addition to survey and clearance activities, Zimbabwe will mobilise resources, relocate the ZIMAC outside of military installations, once the Ministry of Defence obtains required funds, and develop and implement a national strategic plan. The analysing group, while noting the importance of Zimbabwe's commitment to carry out these actions, recalled that the same commitments had been made in Zimbabwe's request which had been approved by the 10MSP.

24. The request includes possible risks and assumption which would affect the fulfilment of commitments contained in the request, including, heavy rains, terrain, metallic contamination from plough shear minefields, administrative delays, and financing

25. The request indicates that activities over the course of the extension period will cost a total of US$ 12,965,125 with US$ 2,875,000 to be provided by the Government of Zimbabwe and US$ 10,090,125 to be sought from other sources. The analysing group noted that given the importance of external support to ensure timely implementation, Zimbabwe could benefit from developing as soon as possible a resource mobilisation strategy. The analysing group further noted that while Zimbabwe indicated that activities concerning mine risk education would be carried out by partner organizations, it is unclear how these activities would be funded given that the budget presented does not include a budget line for these activities.

Table 3
Projected costs during the requested extension period

Organization	*Item*	*Cost*
HALO Trust	clearance	US$ 6,170,625
NPA	clearance	US$ 3,919,500
NMCS	clearance	US$ 2,000,000
	quality control	US $80,000
	information management	US $15,000
TOTAL		US$ 12,185,125

26. The analysing group, while noting that Zimbabwe had not complied with the principal commitment it had made, as recorded in the decisions of the 12MSP, to garner an understanding of the true remaining extent of the challenge and to develop plans accordingly that precisely project the amount of time that will be required to complete article 5 implementation, noted with satisfaction that Zimbabwe has made efforts to do so as well as to build its capacity and improve its efficiency by acquiring the support of international organizations and developing survey and clearance plans for the remaining areas.

27. In recalling that all survey activity is scheduled to be complete by September 2014, which should result in an accurate understanding of the remaining implementation challenge, the analysing group noted that the Convention would benefit from Zimbabwe submitting to the States Parties, through the Convention's President, prior to the Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties, an updated detailed work plan for the remaining period covered by the extension. The analysing group noted that this work plan should contain an updated list of all areas known or suspected to containing anti-personnel mines, annual projections of which areas and area that would be dealt with each year during the remaining period covered by the request and by which organisation, and a detailed Budget.

28. The analysing group noted that the milestones contained in the request would greatly assist Zimbabwe and all States Parties in assessing progress in implementation during the extension period. In this regard, the analysing group noted that it would be beneficial if Zimbabwe provided updates relative to commitments noted in paragraphs 13 and 22 of this analysis and other commitments made in the request at intersessional meetings and at Meetings of the States Parties. In addition, the analysing group noted that the Convention would benefit from Zimbabwe informing the States Parties on an annual basis, as relevant, on the following:

(a) The number, location and size of remaining mined areas, plans to clear or otherwise release these areas and information on areas already released, disaggregated by release through clearance, technical survey and nontechnical survey in accordance with Action #17 of the Cartagena Action Plan.

(b) Resources obtained relative to needs expressed in the request, including resources provided by the Government of Zimbabwe itself.